THE

WEEKLY MAGAZINE,

OR

EDINBURGH AMUSEMENT.

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The great Difference in the State of MORALS, *&c. and Taſte for the* FINE ARTS, *&c. in different Countries, at the ſame Period; and at different Periods in the ſame Country; ſufficiently accountable for, from the Difference in the State of Education and Religion, in theſe Countries and at theſe Periods, without any Recourſe to the concomitant Circumſtances of Soil or Climate. From* An Inquiry into the real and imaginary Obſtructions to the Acquiſition of the Arts in *England, by* JAMES BARRY, *Royal Academician, and Member of the* Clementine *Academy of* Bologna.

THE preſident Monteſquieu has in ſome inſtances unfortunately followed his ingenious countryman Du Bos, in the ſame miſtaken precipitate tract of calculating genius. "As climates are diſtinguiſhed (ſays he) by degrees of latitude, we might diſtinguiſh them alſo in ſome meaſure by degrees of ſenſibility." And he proves it by the following inſtance: "I have ſeen the operas of England and of Italy; they are the ſame pieces, and the ſame performers; and yet the ſame muſic produces ſuch different effects on the two nations: one is ſo cold and indifferent, the other ſo tranſported, that it ſeems almoſt inconceivable *." I ſhall, notwithſtanding, venture to ſay, that theſe different effects are eaſily conceivable, when we chuſe to reflect upon the mutability, growth, decline, and different materials of temporary national education. Is not the national taſte for muſic, like the taſte for all the other arts, conſtantly, though not imperceptibly, changing? Is it not evident, that in Italy, France, and England, the different ages have had very different feelings about them? And are there not many very conſiderable Italians who, ſo far from approving of their preſent taſte of muſic, have lamented its want of meaning and true expreſſion, its degeneracy and change. But I ſhall leave this matter for Doctor Burney and the gentlemen who underſtand muſic, as it is fully ſufficient for my purpoſe that changes have been admitted, and that the taſte for this art, like that for all the others, depends upon the maſs of education, and fluctuates accordingly.

In book xix. ch. 27. of the Spirit of Laws, it is obſerved, as a neceſſary con-

* *Spirit of Laws, book* xiv. *ch.* 2.

ſequence of their ſituation and mode of government, "that the ſatirical writings of the Engliſh are ſharp and ſevere; and we find amongſt them many Juvenals, without diſcovering one Horace."—— "Their poets have more frequently an original rudeneſs of invention, than that particular kind of delicacy which ſprings from taſte; we there find ſomething which approaches nearer to the bold ſtrength of M. Angelo, than to the ſofter graces of a Raphael." Theſe inſtances from the Roman writers are a little unlucky, and foreign to the purpoſe for which they were brought: as the delicate Horace was bred up in the conteſts of a republic, as well as the harſh and ſharp Lucilius; and the ſevere, furious Juvenal lived in the times of ſlavery. As to our ſatiriſts, it is hard to ſay how many of them Monteſquieu had read, or whether he had read any of them, or how far he was maſter of their language, ſo as to be able to form a proper judgment of their ſtile and manner. But abbe Wincleman, who has alſo paſſed a magiſterial cenſure upon all the Engliſh poets, was, to my own knowledge of him, ſo little acquainted with the language they wrote in, that he was ſcarcely able to underſtand even an ordinary article of intelligence in one of our Gazettes. But as Monteſquieu was indeed a very different kind of writer, ſuppoſe we admit for the preſent, that he was alſo above prejudice, and had not, like the other, any ſyſtem to maintain that was incompatible with the truth; that he did underſtand our language; and that, before he formed this judgment, he had given at leaſt our beſt ſatiriſts a fair and diſpaſſionate peruſal: yet, what are we to think, if, after all, he could not find in Pope's Satires, and in his Rape of the Lock, any thing of the Horatian neatneſs and delicacy, which all the reſt of the world have found there; that in Addiſon he could ſee nothing at all of a gentlemanly turn of humour; and that Swift appeared to him to be a blunt, direct, angry writer, who never furniſhed any exerciſe to the riſible muſcles, and who was unſkilled in the uſe of wit and irony.

As to what he ſays in his 14th book, "that the climate of England is ſo diſtempered as to give the natives a diſreliſh to every thing, nay even of life; and that the Engliſh deſtroy themſelves moſt unaccountably often in the very boſom of happineſs," &c. it is an obſervation every way unworthy ſuch a writer as Monteſquieu. At leaſt in this particular he might have informed himſelf better, as the knowledge of it did not depend upon any nice diſcernment of our language, as in the former inſtance. But ſometimes theſe eagles of philoſophy will ſoar ſo high, that they ſee nothing but clouds. A more ordinary man would have found out; nay had it been in the iſlands of Borneo, or Madagaſcar, Monteſquieu would have found, that this hateful practice of ſuicide was brought about by a combination of moral cauſes; that it was of very recent introduction, and that the natives formerly were not particularly remarkable for this moroſeneſs of diſpoſition, and this *tædium vitæ*.

When we conſider the compound nature of man, neither a merely ſenſitive being, nor yet a merely intellectual or moral one, it will afford no ſmall entertainment to let our thoughts wander over the various ways that the different religions of the Greeks, Romans, and the Italians, were calculated to act upon, and to occupy all the ſenſes and the imagination, as well as the underſtanding of the people: Even the antient Jewiſh religion was not ill conſtructed for this, by its pompous and magnificent feaſts, its muſic, its ſacrifices, its numerous ceremonies, and their conſtant frequency. The antients ſeem to have grounded themſelves upon a perſuaſion, that all this external of things, this allegria, feaſting, and occupation of the ſenſes, were indiſpenſibly neceſſary for the bulk of mankind, whoſe ſituations in life utterly diſqualified them for philoſophy, ſubtle calculations, and deductions from the fitneſs of things; and who could be but little affected, and that but for a very ſhort time, by any ſet of abſtract, naked, ſpeculative opinions, rigidly diveſted of all outſide pomps and vanities of this world; and which, by deſpiſing the toys and puppet-ſhow work of ſuperſtition and weakneſs, would leave nothing to amuſe the weak and ignorant, who are very numerous, and are not always confined to the lower claſs. Their religions were accordingly conſtructed in ſuch a manner, as to afford a ſort of general purſuit and ſource of occupation and entertainment, which grew up with every man at the ſame time that he was purſuing his particular avocation in life; and thoſe who were baffled and diſappointed in theſe particular purſuits, found an aſylum and

reſource in recurring to the matter with which religion was amply ſtored, and with which he could fill up the gulph and vacuity of his mind, thus ſickened and forſaken by its other proſpects.

Some countries, from commerce and the form of government, are remarkably diſtinguiſhed for great private wealth, and its concomitants eaſe and luxury. In ſuch countries Socrates, Lycurgus, and St Paul, may agree to decry ſuch a *ſummum bonum*, and to ſtigmatize it as the ſource of the deepeſt evil, but they will have little weight (even where their opinions might reach) with the inveterate habits of men, every part of whoſe education has tended to amplify and to overrate thoſe objects; and who, like fooliſh ſportſmen, build their happineſs upon the capture, which is uncertain and liable to diſappointment, and not in the chace, of which they could not be deprived. I have neither inclination nor ability to declaim upon the thread-bare topics of the world, or the fleſh, of Mammon, or Belial; and if I had, it were better ſpared, as theſe points have been long ſince excellently laboured, both by philoſophy and religion: but I will ſay, that in a great kingdom, where the human paſſions are all a-float, and where property is from the conſtitution of that kingdom remarkably fluctuating, and almoſt like a game of chance; and where the conflict of many different modes of religion had mutually ruined the credit of each other, and, generally ſpeaking, left nothing remaining but a great chaſm of doubt and diſbelief; it will be hard to find in ſuch a kingdom a remedy and a balſam for the diſguſts of an impotent fated voluptuary, for the diſappointment of baffled ambition, pride, avarice, and of all the other purſuits, where the hopes of multitudes of men finiſh in diſappointment, ruin, and chagrin. There is then no general ſtay left, no haven where this wreck can ſhelter itſelf; the very nature and activity of his purſuits, and the paſſions employed in them, has kept him a ſtranger to real ſociability, to affectionate hearty friendſhips, and to every thing that could now be of uſe; he can diſburden himſelf no where; he ſeeks ſolitude, and he has no fears before him to hinder his taking a leap in the dark. Theſe things, as Dr Young obſerves, might have happened in any climate, even in Eden:

A ſenſual, unreflecting life is big
With monſtrous births, and ſuicide, to crown
The black infernal brood.
Complaint, Night V.

As to low ſpirits, and what the French call *ennui*, as people educate themſelves into it, ſo, if they do not ſuffer it to go too far, they may educate themſelves out of it again, of which I have known inſtances. Some men, as was obſerved before, are brought to this temperature of mind, by indulging themſelves in melancholy, upon their loſſes and diſappointments in matters of uncertain tenure, and which they have unwiſely over-rated. Others, ſtrange as it may ſeem, only affect it in the beginning; and, as is often the caſe in love and in other things, habit is ſure to convert it afterwards into a reality. Now there are two infallible remedies that might be preſcribed in this diſorder; one of them indeed is to be taken rather by way of preventive, and conſiſts in ſetting about the acquiring of good humour and high ſpirits; and the method to be purſued is laid down in lord Bacon, P. 74. "Practiſe them (good humour and high ſpirits) chiefly at two ſeveral times: the one when the mind is beſt diſpoſed; the other when it is worſt diſpoſed; that by the one you may gain a great ſtep, by the other you may work out the knots and ſtondes of the mind, and make the middle times the more eaſy and pleaſant." As for the other method of removing the ſpleen, when it has actually taken place, it has been practiſed with a ſalutary good effect upon the Yahoos, and is laid down in Gulliver, who, from certain parities, which he has well diſcovered, recommends it ſtrenuouſly to an Engliſh conſtitution, and pledges himſelf for the ſucceſs of its application.

I hope it is not neceſſary to inſiſt, that an over-attention to ſenſual and worldly qualifications, and an unfeeling indifference to the objects of religon and morality, cannot be the natural conſequence of living in any one climate more than in another; certainly not. The human paſſions, which are the ſeeds of diverſity, and the inſtruments of good and evil, receive no character from nature but that of ſtrength or weakneſs. A man with weak paſſions will never be either very excellent, or very vicious: but when the paſſions are ſtrong and impetuous, then

it is that they touch the extremes of heaven or hell, with their virtues or their vices, according to whichever goal their habits and their education drive them. Thus it is that a man is accountable for his actions; a father for his children; and the ſtate for its members. Timely habits and proper education might convert ſenſibility into humanity, pride into greatneſs of ſoul, and curioſity into a knowledge of ſublime truths.

The hiſtories of England, Greece, Italy, and France, furniſh many inſtances of great changes and revolutions in politics, religion, and morality. There can be no doubt but that Epicuriſm, Stoiciſm, Pyrrhoniſm, or true or falſe Chriſtianity, might be planted ſucceſsfully in any of theſe ſoils; they are equally capable of the extremes of ſuperſtition and impiety, and conſequently of filling up all the mediate ſpaces between them; they are alike ſuſceptible of every mode of government, of ariſtocracy, democracy, or monarchy. There are periods in which each country has ſhewn virtue to be admired and imitated; and there are others which ſhock us with their vices and corruptions: they have had their ages of equal laws, of anarchy, tyranny, luxury, piety, and impiety. The Greeks and Aſiatics were eager to make images in one age, and they were as zealous to break them in another; they had their ages of Iconoclaſtes and Iconopoi; they had their times when, like the Engliſh, they thought it unlawful to paint any thing but birds, landſcapes, and other ſtill-life ſubjects *; and there were other happier times, when the ſame people looked with a becoming contempt on ſuch unworthy purſuits, and when all the dignity of genius was employed upon thoſe nobler objects of the human character and the paſſions; the very veſtiges of which are at this day the admiration of all enlightened people. The people of England have been at one period ambitious of filling up a long calendar of ſaints; at another they were as buſily employed in blotting them out. At one time they are ſlaviſh enough to hold their kingdom in vaſſalage to the Pope; at another they laugh at his authority, and ſpit back interdicts and excommunications in his face.

* *Maimbourg's Hiſtory of the Iconoclaſtes.*

THOUGHTS *on* LIBERTY.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IN my humble opinion there are few more eſtimable privileges annexed to the Britiſh conſtitution than the liberty of the preſs. Pity it is that ever it ſhould be abuſed: But, when the printers or publiſhers of public papers are men properly qualified for the buſineſs (and it certainly highly imports the good of the ſtate they ſhould), they may be, in ſome meaſure, competent judges what materials ſent them are proper for the eye of the public; and from others they may perhaps ſometimes find looſe unconnected hints, that may have ſome tendency to advance the public weal.

There is one very conſiderable advantage may be reaped from it, that, if one diſcloſes his ſentiments with any tolerable degree of ſincerity and candour, it may be a kind of comment on his life, and will tend to explain his actions, and fix what eſtimation and character he deſerves to hold amongſt mankind. It ſurely is of the higheſt importance, in a conſtitution ſuch as ours, that our tempers, talents and opinions, as well as principles, be well known, eſpecially thoſe of young men; as by theſe even the public may judge what part in ſociety they are beſt qualified for acting. It is certainly a matter of the greateſt importance to the well-being of any ſtate, that every member of the community ſhould keep that ſphere, and follow the employment that his temper and talents ſeem beſt adapted to. If we are not at great pains in forming juſt judgments in matters of this nature, we may undertake what we are intirely unqualified for, and aſſume a rank to ourſelves which we do not deſerve, or may not be able to ſupport as we ought.

Perhaps this to many may appear a kind of infringement of the natural liberty of mankind. They may inſiſt that our choice of a profeſſion ſhould be quite free. I am apt to think there may be exceptions. We certainly were not ſent into this world to obey the blind dictates of humour and paſſion, but to fulfil the wiſe and beneficent purpoſes of our almighty and merciful Creator. It muſt, no doubt, be well pleaſing to him, that we endeavour to promote the happineſs

of mankind in general, as well as that of ourſelves: Nay, experience teacheth, that, by always joining the idea of public and private good together, the individual will moſt ſurely obtain genuine pleaſure and happineſs.

The writer of this would wiſh to be one example of his doctrine. He is a ſtedfaſt believer in an Almighty Providence, who preſides over all nature; He alſo wiſhes to deſerve the character of an upright Chriſtian and an honeſt man; and he ſincerely deſires to follow that employment, to adopt thoſe meaſures, and take that part in ſociety that the public may think him beſt qualified for. He wiſhes to diſcloſe his thoughts with all imaginable candour; and can with truth and ſincerity declare, that, in this correſpondence, he is not conſcious of having intentionally given offence to any individual, but that he has avoided it as much as in him lay. If he has tranſgreſſed againſt any one, he requeſts forgiveneſs; and, where-ever he has been injured, or harſhly treated, he wiſhes, from his heart, that he may always be able to ſhow the like forgiving temper—hoping for forgiveneſs himſelf from the God of mercy. The man who thinks juſtly, who deſires always to be guided by truth and right reaſon, will never wiſh to obtain a more exalted ſtation than his fellow-citizens think him intitled to: He will chearfully ſubmit his life, his actions and intentions, to their impartial judgment; and by their deciſion he will willingly abide: He himſelf will reckon that ſtation his line of duty, and moſt honourable, wherein he can render greateſt glory to his Maker, and moſt eſſential ſervice to his king and to his country.—Such he will endeavour to bring himſelf to adopt with chearfulneſs.

A man may, perhaps, ſometimes form juſt concluſions about his paſt conduct; and he may have ſome tolerable idea of what he is at preſent; but I am afraid he cannot promiſe what his principles may be in all ſituations of life—Therefore this writer would chuſe that the rank he is to hold in life, and the plans which he ſhould purſue, were dictated to him by the voice of *true religion* and his country; and, if he has any juſt idea of his own character, he thinks he would tamely bear the moſt abject ſlavery, and the moſt opprobrious epithets, if ever he allowed avarice or falſe ambition to obtain the dominion over him, ſo as to baniſh the dictates of humanity from his mind, or make him forget what he owed to his country, and to his honeſt reputation:—But, alas! as ſome writer well obſerves, it frequently happens that people are not acquainted with the obliquity of their own temper and diſpoſition. How inconſiſtent do even the actions of worthy men often appear! Our hearts can only be clearly ſeen by the Almighty. I am convinced that many of our actions are miſconſtrued, and that we often give offence to each other when we do not intend it; and ſometimes the moſt innocent actions, even through accident itſelf, will carry a very malignant appearance, when we are conſcious that ill-nature had no ſhare in the tranſaction. The candid will allow, that, in ſome ſituations of life, it is remarkably difficult to adhere to a ſteadineſs and conſiſtency of action, and at the ſame time a becoming propriety and decorum of behaviour.

It is ſurely of the greateſt moment that we affix juſt and rational ideas to words, as miſtakes of this kind may lead us into the moſt capital errors in the conduct of life. There is, perhaps, no word, the meaning of which is more vague and undetermined, or which is more differently defined by mankind, than that of Liberty; and indeed well it may, conſidering how variouſly it is diffuſed thro' this our lower world. The wild Indian ranges at large through his native woods, and will own no ſuperior but his head warrior, or chieftain of his tribe. He is in almoſt a conſtant ſtate of warfare with his neighbours, ſuffering the ſevereſt hardſhips, and encountering danger in every form, and is intirely deprived of moſt of the comforts and ſweets of ſociety that civilized nations enjoy; but in return he is perhaps free from many of the painful paſſions that they are tormented with, ſuch as pride, envy, and the immoderate love of power and riches.

Contraſted to this ſtate is that of a deſpotic government, where the multitude are abject ſlaves to one tyrant, who, at any time, to gratify his helliſh paſſions, or capricious humours, will ſacrifice the moſt conſpicuous merit—nay, lay waſte whole provinces with fire and ſword.—The conſtitution of Great Britain ſeems to be a happy medium between theſe two extremes. It is a wiſe mixture of democracy, ariſtocracy and monarchy.

In its native purity, it would ſeem that nothing could be better deviſed to promote the happineſs of mankind. By it every virtuous man has a choice to obtain that ſtation which he deſires, and is beſt qualified for; but all ſublunary things are liable to decay and corruption. Tho' even this our conſtitution allows us jealouſly to watch over, and endeavour to prevent: But, whilſt we have the glorious object of liberty in view, we ought to be equally cautious of running into licentiouſneſs, which is deſtructive of peace, good order, and even liberty itſelf. I ſhould be of opinion that liberty would flouriſh moſt in that ſtate, where every member of the community has the greateſt freedom of doing good, and is reſtrained, by ſalutary laws, from doing evil—the wicked from moleſting the juſt and upright, the ſtrong and powerful from oppreſſing the weak, and the proud and turbulent from inſulting the meek and humble. Moſt of theſe ends our conſtitution ſeems admirably calculated to obtain—as ſuch a large proportion of the people have a voice in chuſing their legiſlators. It is ſurely of the utmoſt importance to the well-being of the ſtate that this be done with the greateſt coolneſs, diſcernment and integrity. An honeſt elector will always give that candidate his voice, who he is convinced has moſt integrity and zeal for the public good (with abilities to ſupport his good intentions), preferably to any other competitor, be his rank, fortune, connections, court influence, or arts of cajolement ever ſo ſtrong temptations to an oppoſite conduct. The modellers of the Britiſh conſtitution ſeem to have intended that all places of truſt, as well as reaſonable honours, ſhould be open to the man of true merit and virtue; and, excepting a certain degree of reſpect that is due to virtuous anceſtry, the nobleman himſelf can claim no ſuperiority over the man of ſterling worth, be his ſtation in life ever ſo low—and pity it is that ever real merit ſhould lie hid and unnoticed. I cannot help thinking, that on a free and unbiaſſed election the liberty of the Britiſh nation altogether depends. May not this be the chief cauſe that we diſcern ſuch an amazing unanimity, and ſuch wonderful efforts of public ſpirit amongſt the North Americans.

We ought, with the moſt anxious care, to avoid every appearance of inſult to majeſty. Conſidering our king as the delegate of the Moſt High, he deſerves our reverence and veneration; and happy it is when ſubjects' inclinations coincide with their duty. Conſidering him as a man, I cannot help thinking he deſerves our love and affection. The domeſtic and conjugal behaviour of him and his amiable conſort, if fame ſpeaks truth, is highly worthy of univerſal imitation; and even his enemies muſt allow that his nature ſeems to be highly adorned with the princely virtues of humanity and generoſity. Much muſt it be regreted if ever the meaſures purſued by government ſhould not tend to promote the honour and happineſs of a prince of ſuch an amiable character, and to advance the true dignity and intereſts of his crown and family: But this is a ſubject far above the writer's pen to do juſtice to, and perhaps what he ſhould not have preſumed to offer his thoughts upon; but he is conſcious his intentions are honeſt, and he ingenuouſly confeſſes it would give him the moſt exalted pleaſure, if any hints that he could offer could be in the leaſt conducive to the public good.

Liberty is a ſubject that is certainly the proper object of every rational being's attention, and moſt ſerious conſideration.—Liberty! thou ſweet, thou inchanting bleſſing! thou beſt and deareſt temporal enjoyment that heaven beſtows on favourite mortals! who, that is conſcious of the ſmalleſt ſpark of thy noble ſentiments, would willingly exchange thee for all the ſplendor of ſtate? Thou art friendly to religion, the nurſe of virtue, and the patroneſs of honeſt genius and the liberal arts—The winning ſmiles and graces are all of thy train—How much more happy is the Britiſh peaſant or mechanic whilſt enjoying thee, and ſinging over his honeſt labour, than a Turkiſh baſhaw or an eaſtern Nabob, wallowing in luxury, a ſlave to his Mogul or Sultan, and the moſt inhuman tyrant to all his fellow-creatures under him! He looks not on mankind as his brethren and ſiſters, but as animals formed merely for his pleaſure and amuſement; and he readily gratifies all the baſe and cruel paſſions of his ſuperior without the leaſt ſhame or remorſe, and never once allows himſelf to ſuppoſe that there is an almighty and omniſcient Being, who ſees all his ways, and who will judge him according to his actions and intentions.—How wide is the diffe-

rence between this and Britiſh liberty!—He who conceives proper ideas of it, will carefully avoid breaking through any moral or religious tie, knowing that, in ſo doing, he gives a wound to liberty. He will be equally above all compliances contrary to his conſcience and principles, as the laſt man to foment ſedition. He will never be ſo much captivated by the whiſtling of a name, as to ſuffer himſelf to be drawn from the duty he owes his God, his king, and his country. If his ſentiments in politics ſhould unhappily differ from thoſe in power, he will nevertheleſs be always open to fair honeſt conviction, and will never allow private pique, perſonal reſentment, nor ſordid avarice or falſe ambition, to draw him from the ſtraight line of duty. Perhaps this may be ſomething like the language of liberty, and may be it were well that every member of the community thought in this manner. Surely no virtuous man will ever oppoſe the meaſures of government, but when, upon mature deliberation, he thinks they tend to the ruin of his country, or infringe upon the natural rights of mankind.

I am ſomehow naturally led to offer a few thoughts on the preſent civil war that we are at this time unhappily engaged in with America. I hope it will not be thought aſſuming, or to proceed from any but honeſt and virtuous motives. I lived long in one of thoſe colonies; and, from what I have ſeen of the Americans (at leaſt thoſe of them that I had an opportunity of being acquainted with, or making any obſervations about), was I obliged to give my opinion of their character, I would freely declare, that I thought them (comparatively ſpeaking) a virtuous people—ſomewhat rough in their manners, but at the ſame time very far from being wanting in humanity—and I cannot think they are deficient in perſonal valour. In hoſpitality, I believe no country exceeds them. In this laſt virtue, as well as public ſpirit, they may even deſerve our imitation. I can with truth declare, that I always obſerved them ready to feed the hungry, and to cheer the heavy heart, with eaſy ſelf-taught politeneſs. I think it is a moſt doleful and unfortunate circumſtance for the Britiſh empire, if no expedient can be fallen upon to bring about an amicable termination of this moſt unhappy diſpute. Surely, if every man of capacity would vigorouſly exert himſelf in this noble undertaking, ſome medium might yet be ſtruck that would again ſecure Britain the friendſhip and good-will of the Americans. If it is only by arms that this unhappy quarrel is to be determined, it may perhaps be ſpun out, to the inconceivable detriment of both countries. There is, beyond doubt, an Almighty Being, who over-rules the fates of kingdoms and empires, as well as that of individuals, for his all-wiſe purpoſes, which we, blind mortals, cannot ſee through—But I would wiſh, with the greateſt humility, to expreſs my opinion, that, if this civil war is continued, it will prove greatly prejudicial to the intereſts of Britain—nor can I think it would be for the real intereſt of the Americans at this time, that they ſhould be altogether independent on Great Britain, or unconnected with her, even ſuppoſing them to get the better in this unnatural quarrel. They certainly would be nothing the worſe of having the aſſiſtance, protection and friendſhip of ſome powerful ſtate; and who is it more natural to expect it from than their mother-country. Indeed, I cannot help thinking, if government holds out to them equitable terms, that it would be inconſiſtent with juſtice and honour for them to inſiſt upon becoming aliens, and dropping all connections with Britain.

When I had an opportunity of hearing any of the Americans' ſentiments on the ſubject, they did not ſeem to wiſh or deſire to be put upon a better footing than they were in the year 1763, *that is*, before the time that the ſtamp-act was attempted to be inforced on them; and they ſhould conſider that even ſuppoſing Britain may, ſince that period, have adopted wrong meaſures with regard to them, yet ſhe is ſtill their parent; and the faults of a parent are ſurely to be viewed with a filial eye, even when we may ſuffer ſeverely from them. If the tragical ſcenes that have paſt in that country lately, do not intirely make them deaf to every kind of reaſonable argumentation, they will conſider that they, in their infancy, were cheriſhed and protected by Britain, and often defended from a ſavage enemy; that no inconſiderable part of the treaſures that Britain expended in the laſt French war, was in defence of the American colonies: There is little proſpect that any thing I could offer would weigh in the leaſt with them; but they may depend I feel for

their diſtreſs and calamity, and what I write is from principle, and from no ſordid motive. Did I think any thing that I could ſay would be regarded, or that I had any influence there, I would beſeech and conjure them, by the moſt pure and diſintereſted friendſhip, to accept of reaſonable terms from Great Britain, and not to perſiſt in being altogether unconnected with her.——I love my country, and I love them—I revere their public ſpirit, as well as their many other virtues. Let us be freemen, and like brethren agree—but let neither of us inſiſt upon what is unreaſonable or unjuſt.—Perhaps both parties may have ſome appearance of juſtice on their ſide, and at the ſame time it is poſſible they may have both gone wrong to work in ſupporting their mutual claims. I ſhould think that, in a matter of ſuch weighty importance, both ſides ought to wave all ceremonious punctilio, and agree to forbear hoſtilities for ſome time, and ſeriouſly endeavour to ſettle the matter by fair negociation. I cannot help being of opinion, that, whatever ſide ſhows the moſt candour and condeſcenſion, they will have the moſt honour, and beſt deſerve applauſe; to which, I am hopeful, the late ſucceſs of the Britiſh arms will greatly contribute; and that, as we are conquerors, we will be merciful. I therefore truſt that this direful quarrel may yet be amicably compromiſed, and that every honeſt heart on both ſides the Atlantic will cordially unite, and earneſtly endeavour to bring about this happy, this bleſſed event.

Yours, &c.

A ſincere Lover of Liberty.

THOUGHTS *on* DRESS.

HOW trifling a matter ſoever ſome philoſophers may deem the mode adopted in cloathing the body, as all they would affect to attend to is the having a mind well furniſhed; yet there is nothing more certain, than that dreſs is a matter which deſerves the regard of people who would with to paſs haopily through the world, and who are not inclined, like Diogenes, to ſeclude themſelves from ſociety.

Dreſs moſt undoubtedly in its firſt inſtitution was a matter of convenience; it was only originally intended to guard people's bodies from the various fury of the ſeaſons, and to cover thoſe parts which decency has taught us to conceal. Hence, in milder climates, the apparel has generally been the lighteſt and the leaſt in quantity, and in the colder regions, the moſt cloſe and heavy; which is the general diſtinction among uncultivated nations. With regard to the quality and materials, they muſt naturally have varied, and always will be found to vary, according to the productions of the countries in various places, where trade and commerce remain unknown to the natives.

But by degrees, as the people of the various nations of the earth have grown more civilized, they have increaſed the quantity, and improved the quality of their dreſs. The females eſpecially, from motives of modeſty, as well as tenderneſs of conſtitution, may be ſuppoſed firſt to have covered more of their bodies; and the men, finding the mode perfectly agreeable, followed their example. The former likewiſe, after *convenience* was anſwered, began to think of *ornament*. We find in the eaſtern countries, at a very early period, they ornamented their hair, their ears, their arms, their fingers, &c. with jewels of ſilver, and jewels of gold. The men likewiſe followed them in this, but perhaps with a more unequal pace. However, in the ſhape and form of their cloathing, we find the males and females not to differ very much in many of the eaſtern nations. In the more hardy north, as well as among the Greeks and Romans, it was found expedient to ſhorten ſome part of the men's dreſs. The Goths eſpecially, being perfectly military, were the real inventors of the ſhort coat and ſword, which, with ſome alterations, is now the habit of an European gentleman. The reaſon was, that (armour alone excepted) this was the moſt perfect military habit. The women, however, were permitted to keep their long cloaths, becauſe from them neither athletic nor military exerciſes were expected.

Revolving ages continually convincing mankind more and more, how much the charms of the other ſex were capable of improvement, and of the vaſt difference there was between the enjoyment of a mere ſimple ſavage, naked perhaps, or clothed in ſkins and feathers, and that of a delicate woman, ſet off by all the aids of external ornament, they became by degrees more pleaſed with theſe exter-

nals. The women perceived it, and willing to loſe nothing of their power, added ornament to ornament; ſuch as were by their property enabled to do it, perpetually varying the modes of them. The men quickly followed them in this too, and hence the birth of faſhion and luxury in dreſs.

It is eaſy to trace at the ſame time the origin of the different *ranks* of life being diſtinguiſhed by dreſs; but the exceſs of it has at length overturned the very end it ſeemed intended to anſwer; ſo that in the European countries, rank ſeems frequently rather confounded than diſtinguiſhed by it. Yet I confeſs I feel a ſecret pleaſure in contemplating the days when purple was worn only by emperors, and the time when the lord of half the known world thought a ſilk gown too extravagant for his empreſs. The pleaſure I feel reſults from my conſidering, that luxury was not then ſo univerſally diffuſed through all orders of mankind: in effect, I lament that no mode can be pitched upon to reconcile ſumptuary laws with freedom in this land of liberty and politeneſs—I fear none ſuch will ever be found, unleſs it were poſſible to bring them into faſhion.

But having ſaid thus much I muſt add, that it behoves us all to take things *as they are*, ſince we cannot make them what *we would*. On this account, ſince dreſs is at preſent conſidered as indiſpenſible, I would wiſh every one, as far as his power and abilities go, not to ſlight the conſideration of it.

However a certain noble lord may have been blamed for ſome of his documents to his ſon, yet certainly thoſe in which he inforces a regard to this article, from a *trifle* now become an *eſſential*, are in general (though, perhaps, too *particular* for the public eye), as *private* documents, much to the purpoſe. I would not, however, ſo far recommend a reſpect to externals, as to prefer them to the more ſolid gifts; but in a man who is not, as I ſaid before, ſecluded from the world, I can by no means conceive thoſe to be incompatible. We muſt in ſome meaſure accord to the cuſtoms and manners, nay to the very faſhions of ſociety, if we would live in it; and if ſome outward ſhow be neceſſary, we ſhould not reprobate it, provided it is managed with decency, and, as much as may be, conformable to the peculiar rank and condition in life of each individual.

How often have I ſeen, either from inattention to this point, or want of ability to comply with the cuſtoms of the world, the wiſe head, the generous, the feeling heart, made at beſt but a cypher to add to the numbers of a mixed company, or perhaps treated with a ſupercilioufneſs by a powdered coxcomb, or ſelf-conſequential full-blown empty-headed cit; perhaps, what is worſe than all the reſt, uſed with that mixture of *contempt* and *envy* by the vulgar, which narrow ſouls alone are capable of, and which it requires the height of philoſophy to endure!

Dreſs, in effect, is the key to all that is uſeful in the world; and as none can mingle in ſociety without it, ſo it is abſolutely neceſſary to the knowledge of life: and as there are certain things which books can never teach us, every man who wiſhes to mix with the world will be convinced, from that circumſtance alone, that it deſerves to be regarded.

In ſhort, this article is now become ſo inſeparable from the perſon, that the man may not unfrequently be diſtinguiſhed by his dreſs—I mean not ſo much as to his rank, as his diſpoſition. And as to women, it is ſtill more inſeparable from the opinion we entertain of their charms. When we ſee a female dreſſed with elegance, propriety, and judgment, it has been not improperly aſſerted, that it is almoſt impoſſible to diſjoin our ideas of the *dreſs* from thoſe of the *woman*; one reaſon of which is, that in ſuch caſe her temper and turn of mind are in a great meaſure ſuppoſed to be viſible in the choice of her cloathing, and the diſpoſition of her ornaments.

This leads me to inforce, among the few rules that I mean to lay down, the attention due to propriety in the choice of dreſs, 1. As to your rank in life, and the company your fortune or buſineſs points out as neceſſary for you to keep. 2. As to your age, ſize, and complexion. 3. As, *without* an obſervation of theſe particulars, the beſt dreſs will appear preporterous, and *with* them even ſuch as is *indifferent* may be overlooked by the help of a proper addreſs and converſation.

Next to cleanlineſs, the abſolute ground-work of all dreſs, I would recommend a freedom of deportment, which, perhaps, is not ſo difficult to acquire as ſome people imagine. Indeed the air of a man of quality is not eaſy to

be attained by a tradeſman; and if he had it, it would ill become him: but there is a certain eaſe peculiar to every man's ſtation, which undoubtedly may be acquired; and which I mention in diſcourſing of dreſs, becauſe I am convinced, at this time, that no man can exerciſe it, if he is not habited in ſome meaſure ſuitable to his rank in life.

I ſhall conclude with obſerving, that though it is in my opinion a lamentable circumſtance, that in dreſs, as well as in many other articles of expence, people are inclined to go *above* their ſtation; yet in ſome particular reſpects, and at certain times, even *this* may be allowable, when we are to viſit or receive ſuch perſons as expect theſe formalities. The puſhing any *faſhion* to an extreme is what I deem much leſs allowable, as it occaſions frequently ill-natured comments of the *many*, which might be well avoided, on the one hand; whilſt, on the other hand, even the *few* will ſcarcely cenſure us, while we are decently faſhionable, and do not attempt to outvie them.—

Theſe rules in general may be ſuitable to either ſex; and as to *particulars*, where the judgment of individuals cannot guide them, I am convinced, that the directions even of a Cheſterfield would be thrown away. I ſhall only add, that in common life, where no public character requires a ſuitable pomp, the dreſs of the *men* ſhould be always rather *plain*, that of the *women* rather *ornamental*; that they ſhould not be too fond of imitating each other; but that, in effect, the former ſhould be ever perfectly *maſculine*, the other perfectly *feminine*; which is the very ground-work of all attraction between the ſexes, and undoubtedly, however faſhions may vary, ſhould never be loſt ſight of, as being the certain original criterion of propriety in dreſs.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

THE YOUNG FARMER.
No. V. [P. 203.]

IF my young farmer will but ſtrictly obſerve and keep in remembrance the many errors and blunders committed by his brethren, they will be monitors, and prevent his purſuing the ſame methods. It is difficult to preſcribe, or go by rules in farming, becauſe there will be many exceptions; therefore, the beſt advice I can give him, is to let reaſon (not cuſtom) always direct him: as probably he will in opinion, ſo ſhould his practice and crops differ from thoſe of his neighbours. Let him endeavour to raiſe crops of whatever there is greateſt ſcarcity in the country, the readieſt market for, and will beſt ſuit his ſoil and ſituation; for that end, in every field that he plows, let him dedicate the middle ridge to be drilled with the moſt uncommon ſeeds, and what he thinks are moſt likely to anſwer his ſoil and purpoſe. Theſe experiments will, at any rate, repay their maker, and ſome of them will bid fair for making his fortune. Let the worſt happen, he will thereby acquire knowledge at a cheap rate. The proſpect of gain, pleaſure, and variety attending thoſe experiments, will naturally lead him to be diligent and attentive to his buſineſs; alſo to be acquainted with the conſtitution of his various ſoils and manures, and with the vegetables that will beſt agree with them.

His reclaiming, or taking in a quantity of barren ground yearly by planting of potatoes, will convince him that it may be done with profit inſtead of expence to the undertaker, becauſe the crop will more than reimburſe him; his frequent tilling, porcupining, and building the ſods of ruſhy or other ground overgrown with weeds, into walls four or five feet high, will ſhow him that weeds of all kinds may be baniſhed, and that the ſoil may be greatly fertilized by ſolar and aerial influence. His drilling all corn or plants, and frequent hoeing, will convince him of the utility and eligibility of that practice, when compared with the vulgar way.

The next buſineſs is to clear the ground, intended for a garden, of all ſtones, either on its ſurface, or within reach of the ſpade or plough, carrying them up to the yard to be ready for the buildings; then to extirpate the whole race of plants that grow there, root and branch, otherwiſe ſcutch-graſs, and ſuch weeds will maintain their ground for ſeveral years, and rob uſeful plants of their allowance. In order thereto, having laid out five walks ſix feet wide, viz. one along each ſide, and one down the middle, then after a ſhower of rain, when the turf is moiſt, having loaded the diviſor, and put one or two horſes thereto, I begin one foot from the bottom walk, and, parallel thereto, go from the ſide to the

other; then turning, and plowing the gauge to run in the uppermoſt cut line, return; thus go back and fore till the diviſor is at the top of the garden, and all the ſods cut in lines of one foot diſtant from one another. Then ſetting out from the top, go down cloſe by one of the ſide walks, up again, and ſo forth, till all the ſod is cut into ſquare feet; every trip the diviſor makes, four lines are cut in the ſod; when turned and moved off exactly one foot from the line neareſt the diviſor, and directed by the gauge, it makes four more, ſo that whatever number of common paces the field is in breadth and length, half the number of trips are requiſite to cut into feet.

This operation ſucceeds beſt when the ground is well ſoaked with rain, as in the autumn, and that is the time I pitch upon, for theſe reaſons,—that labourers can then be ſpared from other buſineſs, and that turf can be got to build about the roots of fruit-trees, which I am going to plant on each ſide of the walks to form eſpaliers, as ſoon as the pond and ſide fences are finiſhed, and a temporary fence raiſed of the ſod to guard the upper part of the garden. Now, four men are ſet to work to build long benches, or ſod-walks on each ſide, and cloſe to the walks, two feet broad at bottom, and one at top, where they are raiſed to ſupport and ſhelter the trees. The intermediate ſpace to be about two feet high to ſerve as ſeats. The ſurface is cleared thus,—one man puſhing a ſpade under each ſod, raiſes; two lift and carry, and the fourth lays them. After theſe benches are built on each ſide all the walks, having provided oyſter ſhells on purpoſe, I with the ſpade cut a perpendicular grove in the ſod-wall, and, undermining it a little to make room for the roots, ſpread about thirty or more ſhells even with the ſurface of the ſod, and having lopt off the top-root, and pruned the others, whilſt one man holds the young tree reſting on the ſhells and placed in the grove, another throws wet earth and builds ſods round it: thus all the reſt are planted, then watered, and the branches ſpread and pinned to the ſod-wall, to prevent the roots ſtriking down into a cold ſoil or clay, and to communicate fertility and warmth to the roots.

Theſe ſupporters of the trees will require and employ a good many of the ſquare ſods; what remains are to be built up in walls about four feet high, extending from the upper to the lower walks of the garden, to be expoſed to the influence of the ſun and air, and vegetation thereby deſtroyed, ſo that by one ſummer's drought the roots of graſs, &c. will wither and become excellent manure when ſpread on the ground again: Mean time, the ſoil that was under the ſods is to be tilled or dug up, and often harrowed, to imbibe nitrous and balſamic treaſure from the atmoſphere during the winter; and in the ſpring to be laid out and planted with cabbages, brocoli, and cauliflower plants, and ſowed with ſeeds of carrots, parſnips, turnips, onions, leeks, parſley, and ſallading betwixt the ſod walls; for they muſt ſtand till the next ſpring, then may be pulled down, broken to pieces, and mixed with the other ſoil, which will be greatly enriched thereby: but till theſe crops can be uſeful, leeks and cabbages that have ſtood the winter in mine, ſhall be tranſplanted to this garden, to anſwer his preſent demands.—If the earth that came out of the pond be fit, it ſhall be mixed with the garden ſoil, to give it a proper depth; this method, where there is either clay or gravel at bottom, and no depth of ſoil, muſt be the quickeſt way of getting rid of graſs and weeds; for fencing is only fit for deep or ſandy ſoils, and is more expenſive.

The orchard becomes our next object; the method of laying it out, and planting it with fruit-trees, have been deſcribed together; but this ſpring, after the garden, the orchard muſt be incloſed, then divided into three feet breadth ridges and furrows lying north and ſouth, and planted in March with potatoes in this manner; ſtraining a line to direct me in keeping the firſt ridge ſtraight, I load the diviſor with ſtones, then, either by men, or a horſe, drag it along that line from the upper to the lower fence of the field; then turning it, place a gauge of three feet length, which will direct to keep that diſtance from the neareſt of the four ſcores; as I return, thus going back and fore as often as is neceſſary to mark out the ridges, and cut the ſods, on viewing the ground, I ſhall find it divided into ridges of three feet, and furrows of the ſame breadth cut longitudinally with four ſcores.—Theſe ridges are to be covered with any ſort of manure; but ſtraw, ſtubble, thiſtles, ferns, ruſhes, or, for want of theſe, tops of heath, broom, or

furze, or ſmall branches and leaves of trees will do. When that is done, the potatoe ſeed (which is either ſmall ones, or large potatoes cut into ſmall pieces, taking care that there be a dimple in each) is to be laid upon the manure, juſt before plowing, five or ſix inches one from the other. Then the wind plough is to be armed with its double furrowed coulters, theſe having two mould-boards alſo, being, with a briſk gale, entered in the two middle lines cut in each furrow, as it moves along turns over, and covers one-third of each ridge, both on its right and left, with the ſods of the furrow; when got into the end of the ridges, the plough muſt be led out of that into the next furrow; ſo going up one and coming down another, two-thirds of the ſods of the furrows will be laid on the ridges, and thus the manure and potatoe ſeed covered; previous to theſe operations, all ſtones or buſhes that might obſtruct the diviſor and plough, or ant, or mole-hills, muſt be removed.

[*To be continued.*]

On the WOOLEN MANUFACTURE, *and the Improvement of Heathery-ground for Sheep-paſture in* Scotland.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IT gives me a very particular ſatisfaction to obſerve, that a ſpirit of patronizing and ſupporting the different articles of Scots manufacture ſo generally obtains among all ranks in this country, and that one of the moſt noble and diſtinguiſhed characters * in it has ſhewn a laudable zeal for the intereſt of ſociety, and eſpecially of thoſe more immediately under his protection, by erecting a very conſiderable woolen manufactory upon one of his eſtates, by which means a number of hands, formerly, I am told, but indifferently employed, now find work in abundance, good returns for their labour, and comfortable houſes erected at the expence of the proprietor; all theſe are inſured to them ſo long as they continue to merit the favour by a ſober induſtrious attention to their reſpective employments.

Another undertaking of the ſame nature is going on with ſucceſs at the village of Lawrence-kirk, upon the eſtate of lord Gardenſton. His lordſhip's plan is upon the moſt liberal principles. At a conſiderable expence and trouble, he has invited tradeſmen, capital in their reſpective branches, to ſettle at his village, where commodious and ſubſtantial houſes and work-houſes are erected for them, with a piece of ground to each houſe, more or leſs as may be agreed upon; and, in order the more effectually to ſtimulate induſtry, every individual is made independent of the proprietor, by becoming purchaſers of their houſes, &c. and the purchaſe-money is taken in partial payments, as it can be ſpared from the neceſſary outlay on trade, and ſupport of family. This is, as it were, *forcing* people to be happy. Undertakings begun and ſupported on theſe principles cannot fail of ſucceſs. I hope thoſe examples will in time have the effect of rouſing that *amor patriæ* which we have ſo long and ſo ſhamefully allowed to be lulled aſleep.

To the indefatigable and honeſt zeal of Mr D. Loch we are much obliged for a great many uſeful and important hints with reſpect to the woolen manufacture, and the management and breed of ſheep. Such a man ought to be held in eſteem by every real well-wiſher of his country, and I dare ſay he will find it among the more intelligent and reſpectable part of ſociety.—In conſidering this ſubject attentively, I find that even now, in the infancy of our woolen manufactures, we cannot nearly ſupply the neceſſary quantity. Not to mention others, the Meſſrs Killgours, on the eſtate of Mr Garden of Troup, expend annually a very conſiderable ſum on Engliſh wool. Would it not be an object worthy the attention of the noblemen and gentlemen who are encouragers of this branch, to think of, and adopt ſome ſcheme for increaſing the number of ſheep in Scotland? Sure I am ſuch a plan would be followed with great ſucceſs; and I am confident (if introduced by proper examples) would not fail of ſoon becoming general.

Setting aſide the vaſt tracks of high lands in Scotland, which nature never intended for any other purpoſe than that of ſheep-paſture or planting, how many thouſand acres of land are in tillage, that does not yield two ſeeds and a half, or three at moſt, which, at a trifling expence, might be converted into ſheep-walks, to the great emolument of the tenants, and the future advantage of the

* *Duke of Argyle.*

landlord? If the outfield lands of farms were put to this uſe, the infield ground would, in a ſhort time, be in much higher order, as all the dung, which formerly in ſcanty portions was ſcattered in rotation over the whole farm, would then be liberally applied to the beſt land. It would not be going too far to affirm, that the bulk of our barn-yards would ſuffer no diminution by this practice. In the end, I am ſatisfied, our profits would be vaſtly greater.

The limits of a letter will not allow me to enter more minutely into this ſubject, or to point out what I apprehend are the proper methods of laying out theſe lands for the purpoſes above-mentioned, according to the variety of ſoils that may occur. I have only ſtarted this ſubject, in hopes to ſee it purſued by ſome of your correſpondents of greater experience, and whoſe abilities as a writer may give a higher ſanction to his inſtructions. At the ſame time, if I find the hint attended to, I ſhall not fail to communicate, through the channel of your uſeful Miſcellany, the practice I adopted in laying down the outfield of a conſiderable arable farm in a ſheep-walk, or indeed any other uſeful improvement that may have occurred in the courſe of my practice and obſervation.

I cannot, however, conclude without taking notice of a letter in your laſt week's Magazine [P. 268.], which is now before me, ſigned J—— F——. dated from the *Braes of White-water*.—I perfectly agree with every thing advanced by this gentleman, except with regard to the different ſoils upon which heather grows.—He ſays, "There are 'two ſorts of heathery land: the firſt is 'dry, which, having a mixture of earth 'and moſs, is capable of improvement, 'and the method uſed is burning the 'ſurface, plowing and liming it: The 'other is intirely moſs, without the leaſt 'mixture of earth, and that is capable 'of no improvement except that of 'burning the heather."—Mr Printer, I have known large fields of moſs, without any mixture of earth, upon being drained, the ſurface pared and burnt, and the aſhes ſpread out, with a mixture of lime, yield very grateful returns both of corns and graſs. This, I ſhould imagine, is a proof of their being capable of improvement.

The gentleman who had the management of the late earl of Eglinton's very extenſive improvements, accompliſhed this in more than one or two inſtances.

Mr J—— F—— ſeems to differ from your correſpondent, Mr D. Loch, with regard to the propriety of burning heather. I am afraid theſe two gentlemen do not underſtand one another. Mr Loch, if I rightly recollect, inſiſts that ſheep, paſturing upon heathery ground, will in time eradicate the heather altogether, and introduce in its ſtead kindly graſſes and richer paſture. This change he attributes, and very juſtly too, to the tath of the ſheep; but the quantity muſt be proportioned to the extent of your heathery ground. Every perſon of common obſervation muſt agree with Mr J—— F——, "that the dung of one 'ſheep can never be known upon two or 'more acres of land."—Mr Loch, I preſume, never meant ſo. Mr Barclay of Urie, in his practice, and it is very extenſive and reſpectable, has put this matter beyond a doubt. His ſheep are well fed the greateſt part of the day, and are led to that particular lot of his heathery ground which he means to improve.—This is continued daily for a ſeaſon, or ſuch length of time as he may judge, by the thickneſs of the tathing, will anſwer the purpoſe. Thus he goes on by little and little: the heather diſappears, fine graſſes ſucceed; and, with the increaſe of his paſture, he increaſes his ſheep, for the purpoſe of more extenſive improvements, to his own great profit, and the general good of his country.

Many other inſtances might be adduced to prove that ſheep-tath in ſufficient quantity will eradicate heather, and introduce finer graſſes in its place.—But I have inſenſibly ſwelled this letter ſo much beyond what I at firſt intended, that I am afraid it will ſcarcely gain admiſſion into your Miſcellany.

Yours, &c.

A Practical Farmer.

King's Park, Nov. 22.

MOMUS: *Or, The* LAUGHING PHILOSOPHER.

A SKETCH *of an* APOTHECARY *and an* UNDERTAKER *in a ſingular Situation.*

RIDING through a country village a few days ago, I was ſtruck with a board affixed to a houſe, upon which was written in capitals, ——— ———, APOTHECARY: but I was ſtill more ſtruck

with its *companion*, which was placed pretty near it, with ——— ——— UNDERTAKER, diſplayed in *golden letters* of equal magnitude.—Reflecting upon the great propriety with which theſe two *boards* appeared in the front of the ſame houſe, I was naturally led to think how well the owners of them might contrive to play into each other's hands.—Stimulated by a particular curioſity upon this whimſical occaſion, I diſmounted, walked into the ſhop, and purchaſed half an ounce of *rhubarb*, on purpoſe to have the pleaſure of talking a little with the maſter of it, and of telling him how happily, in my opinion, he was ſituated.

"I am very glad, Sir," replied he, "that it appears ſo to you, or to any gentleman; and heartily wiſh that I could find the ſituation of my ſhop agreeable to me: but my neighbour's *board* ſo near my own, though *you* think it very judiciouſly placed, has, I fear, hindered me from having a great many *patients*, by deterring people from ſending for me, leſt the undertaker, in the ſame houſe, ſhould follow of courſe. But this is my father's doing. Finding trade very *dead* himſelf, he came and took part of *my* houſe, which was indeed too large for me, thinking that I might make buſineſs for *him*, and that we might aſſiſt each other. However, this ſcheme of his has not proved ſucceſsful. My father's employment puts people ſo much in mind of *death*, that they do not care to ſend for *me*, apprehenſive, I ſuppoſe, that *I* ſhould *kill*, and *he* bury them!"

I could not help laughing at the woeful countenance with which this diſciple of *Æſculapius* appeared when he cloſed his ſpeech.—I then told him, that, as I did not imagine his father buried people before they were dead; and, as it was his intereſt to keep his patients *alive*, though not to keep them in *health*, I could not ſee why his connection with an undertaker (eſpecially as that undertaker was his own father) ſhould ſpoil his practice.

"Aye, but you are miſtaken, Sir," replied Mr Prattle, eagerly; "there are more people buried alive than you think of, or at leaſt ſtifled at once, by being screwed down before it is certainly known whether they are dead or not. I have known aſtoniſhing things of this kind. Setting aſide the whole ſtory of the woman who came home to her huſband in the middle of the night, with a candle and lanthorn, when he believed her ſecurely taking her laſt ſleep, I can give you, upon very good authority, a very remarkable piece of information, much to the preſent purpoſe. A young woman, having been hanged for a crime ſhe had never committed, being taken down before ſhe was quite dead, was carried into a ſurgeon's cellar to be ready for diſſection. Soon after the corpſe was ſo depoſited, one of the maids of the houſe, going down to draw ſome beer, was terrified to ſuch a degree, and ſcreamed ſo loudly, that her outcries brought her maſter down.—By *his* arrival the poor woman was ſaved—She had ſuffered the law, you know. However, this ſtory getting abroad, and coming to the ears of a *juſtice* in the neighbourhood, it frightened him in ſuch a manner, that he immediately made his *will*, and left five guineas for the ſeparation of his head from his body as ſoon as the breath was out of it.—All our great people are ſtripped before they are cold, toſſed into a *ſhell*, as you would do a dog into a ditch, and hurried away to an *undertaker's*; and he *takes care* to ſecure a *funeral*, by faſtening them up in lead as ſoon as he has got them in his cuſtody.—As for your *Jews*, it is highly probable that many of *them* are buried alive, as they are never kept above ground after ſunſet."

"That's true (ſaid I); but *Chriſtians*, I think, by your account, are not in a much better ſituation:—Yet I ſhould imagine that, as *you* will certainly get more by living patients than dead ones, they may depend upon your not letting your father come in for his ſhare of the buſineſs till you have quite taken care of your own."

"True (anſwered he); but ſome people are ſo fanciful, that they die almoſt every day through the mere apprehenſion of dying; or elſe they are ſo ſuperſtitious, that the very ſight or ſmell of an undertaker will do their buſineſs as effectually as a piſtol or a malignant fever.—You muſt be ſenſible, Sir, that there are many perſons who, in this enlightened age, look upon every thing as ominous.—Do you ſuppoſe that any man will ſend for *me* to give him relief, when he ſuſpects that my father is ready to cure him completely of all his diſorders, by nailing him up at once in his coffin?

And then there is no *woman* whatever will have any thing to do with me, as they all abhor *confinement*. They are ſure—(I know very well what they ſay) that, when once my father lays hold of them, they will never eſcape out of his hands, and therefore they will do all they can to keep out of his clutches. Women in general are more wary than men; but men, I think, when they are ſick, have more fears and apprehenſions than women. In ſhort, when a man advanced in years begins to be upon the decline, he frequently dwindles into a mere old woman."

"Well—replied I—if the ladies have no deſire to deal with you on their own account (as you have a *hearſe* always ready at your elbow), ſome married ones might be induced, methinks, by that very conſideration, to ſend for you to their huſbands; and thoſe huſbands might (under the influence of ſimilar motives) be as willing to employ you about their wives.—You cannot, therefore, fail of great practice among *married* people at leaſt."

"Why, yes (anſwered he), ſo I might, if they were like the reſt of the world; but where ſhall we find a wife who will be ruled by a huſband, or a man who will be perſuaded by his wife?—No, Sir, I ſtand no chance of being ſent for to either ſex, while they are capable of making any reſiſtance to medicines. It is only when they are at the very laſt gaſp that they can be made to ſwallow the *quieting draught*. I have always, indeed, obſerved in my practice, that a man conſtantly refuſes to follow the preſcriptions of an apothecary recommended by his wife, becauſe he knows that ſhe wiſhes to get rid of him as faſt as ſhe can: for the ſame reaſon a woman moſt violently objects to any of the faculty propoſed by her huſband, as ſhe is *ſure and certain* that it is her huſband's intereſt to ſilence her for ever with all decent expedition.—You ſee then, Sir, I ſtand but a bad chance every way."

"Not a bit the worſe chance (ſaid I) for having an undertaker in your houſe; for, as every body knows that an apothecary kills *par hazard*, we will ſuppoſe, as many he cures; and, as thoſe who *die* muſt be *buried*, it is very immaterial whether *your* father, or any other man, is benefited by the funeral."

"You are right, Sir (replied he); yet I dare ſay that, if you was taken ill, you would not apply to *me* for my aſſiſtance."

"Juſt as ſoon as to any of your profeſſion.—I am not, I confeſs, at all deſirous of going out of the world *ſecundum artem*."

"No! (anſwered he, with looks of aſtoniſhment)—One of my beſt patients, I aſſure you, declares he ſhall not go out of the world eaſily, but under the hands of a regular-bred phyſician."

"Perhaps not (ſaid I); but I have an equal averſion to a quack, even to the great *water-doctor* himſelf; and believe that, when *death* has a mind to make an attempt upon me, he can do it without *your* aid, or the aſſiſtance of any of your fraternity: yet I cannot but in juſtice allow that you are all both ready and willing to forward his operations with ſpirit: And after all, I ſee no reaſon why the *cloſe connection* between you and your father ſhould prevent applications to yourſelf in particular; for every body knows well enough, that an apothecary is as neceſſarily attended by an undertaker as a *modern marriage* is by a ſeparation."

To the PRINTER, *&c.*

SIR,

On board his Majeſty's ſhip the ———, *at Spithead.*

AS I have ſeen in your Paper ſeveral overhawls in behalf of ſeamen, I hope you won't refuſe me a place in it, to tell how ill I have been uſed, and how unkind I take it of my lords of the admiralty. We parted convoy coming from Jamaica in the latitude of Bermudas; we afterwards fought off two 'Merican privateers, and got into the channel, and when the fog cleared up we found our ſhip between the Edyſton and Plymouth ſound. You can't imagine, Mr Printer, what joy it gave me to ſee not only my native country again, but the very town, as one may ſay, where I was born, and where I almoſt thought I ſaw our Bet (for I married laſt voyage) looking out for me: I had ſaved my money ſo as to be able to bring home a five gallon keg of good rum, a pine apple preſerved in brown ſugar, five dozen of limes in ſand, and a pot of preſerved ginger. It was ginger like a dram, Mr Printer. Well, Sir, never did man ſtand between

two maſts feel more happier than I did, till we brought to off Dover, to ſend a packet aſhore from admiral Gayton; as we had hands enough, the captain had promiſed to let me land at the neareſt port to Plymouth. But before we got our boat over the gun-wale, we were boarded by the king's cutter, who preſſed me and four other hands, and put us aboard the cutter under hatches, where the air was enough to kill a horſe, and poiſoned with a ſtench of thirty other preſſed men; the lieutenant would not let me even take my rum, my cheſt, nor bedding; and when he ſaw me in tears, more for poor Bet's ſake than myſelf, he d—'d me for a blubbering ſon of a b—h, (though my mother is as honeſt a woman as ever bore a ſailor,) and put me down worſe than a tranſport into the hold of the tender, and we were three days before we ſaw day-light, or breathed a mouthful of freſh air, though there was above ſuch plenty of it. I am now, it is true, in a better birth; but if I knew how to expreſs the anguiſh of my heart, or the love I bear to our Bet, it would not only make your's bleed for me, but even lord Sandiſhes, unleſs he is made of Admirales ſtones. Does lords think as how a poor ſeaman can't love his wife as well as they do their miſtreſſes; or that becauſe a ſailor can fight in war, or go aloft in a ſtorm, that he does not deſerve a little reſt and comfort after a long voyage; by G—, Mr Printer, (I aſk pardon for ſwearing in print), I had not a dry trowſer to my b——— for fourteen days together in the paſſage home; but I never minded it; the pleaſure of coming home, and knowing I had a home to come to, carried me through every thing; but now, from the happieſt fellow that ever took a reef in, I am become the moſt wretched; they have even denied me pen, ink, and paper; and if it had not been for a young midſhipman, our captain's nephew, who lent me his, and gave me paper, I ſhould perhaps have been ſent again a long voyage, without ſeeing Bet, without getting my rum, pine apple, or limes; but I hope now, that if ſo be the king ſhould ſee the Paper, that is, your Paper I mean, he will tell the lords of the admiralty to let me go to Plymouth for a fortnite, and I do in the moſt ſolemn manner ſwear I will return on board the ———, and bring my brother Iſaac along with me; pray, Sir, therefore don't forget to print the unhappy caſe of

JOSEPH TRUELOVE.

A CARD *and* ACROSTIC.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

AS you are not to be thought ſo well acquainted with the ſtate of our affairs as thoſe who have lived a country life, namely as to the management of farms, &c. you will be ready to think the grateful acknowledgments of ſome ſenſible farmers returned to Mr David Loch for his unparalelled pains, and ſeaſonable diſplay of his happy talents, for the good of our native country, a piece of ſuperfluity: But, Sir, you will pardon the farmers and others in Scotland, although you ſhould entertain ſome ſuch opinion. We, from different ſhires and boroughs, once every week during twelve months, can never pay a juſter tribute; and, as I live in a ſheep-country on the north-ſide of the Tweed, and have already moſt ſenſibly profited by the inſtructions of the aforeſaid gentleman, I beg leave of preſenting a moſt grateful acknowledgment of the favours we have already received, for myſelf and many others, who, if it were needful, would ſubſcribe their names alongſt with me; and, as we love to dwell on the name of thoſe who are or have been benefactors to us and our country, pleaſe to inſert the following Acroſtic, and once more oblige, SIR,

Yours, &c.

THOMAS BLACKADDER.

Banks of Blackadder, Nov. 6.

An ACROSTIC.

MOST worthy Sir, your valuable name
ROlls round our iſle with univerſal fame.
DId e'er a nation ſo to ſloth decay,
AS wholeſome counſel could no help convey:
VaniſH the thought, and hence be far away!
INſtructions good from all your writings flow,
DIviding portions both to high and low;
LOng look'd for day on us begins to ſmile!
ONe man's inſtruction lights our native iſle.
COme, *brother farmers*, whilſt the light doth ſhine,
HIS health let's drink in bumpers of good wine.

T—— B——.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

CORDELIA; *Or, The* FORCE *of* VIRTUE. *An* ANTIENT TALE.

IN times of yore (as ſtory tells).
When ſprightly fairies left their cells
In lively rounds to ſport,
Surrounded by a ſpacious wood,
A large and princely caſtle ſtood,
Where MERLIN fix'd his court.

This Merlin was of high renown,
All art—all magic was his own,
A WIZARD PRINCE he reign'd:
This wizard many a gallant knight
Enſnar'd, and, if report ſays right,
In dungeons dark detain'd.

'Tis ſaid, ſo various was his dreſs,
Oft like a damſel in diſtreſs,
The trav'ller he betray'd;
Or like ſome wanton am'rous boy,
He pleas'd the unſuſpicious eye,
The unſuſpicious maid.

So varied was the varied change,
No one, where Merlin liv'd, could range,
Or tell his friend from foe;
The nymphs forſook the flow'ry vale,
The fearful ſhepherds fled the dale,
To caves and grots below.

Diſtant a little from this ſcene,
Incircled by a pleaſant green,
With trees on ev'ry ſide,
A beauteous manſion rear'd its head,
In which the fair CORDELIA ſtay'd,
In all a virgin's pride.

When EDGAR left his native land,
To him Cordelia pledg'd her hand;
A valiant knight was he:
Lovely in all the bloom of youth,
Virtue, ſweet innocence, and truth,
A conſtant lover ſhe.

Tedious the ling'ring minutes run,
Slow moves the moon, and ſlow the ſun;
The days at laſt appear,
Bleſt days of Edgar's hope return,
Cordelia riſes with the morn,
Each minute ſeems a year.

Reclin'd beneath a neighb'ring grove,
With ſongs ſhe woos her abſent love,
Soft muſic floats in air:
" O come, my EDGAR! come away!
' CORDELIA mourns thy long delay,
' Each minute ſeems a year."

Her words like heav'nly dews deſcend,
When lo! the ruſtling branches bend,
" Hail, child!" a hermit cried;
Ariſing from her verdant bed,
A conſcious bluſh her face o'erſpread,
" Hail, father!" ſhe reply'd.

" Alas! my child! where Merlin dwells,
' Confin'd by Merlin's magic ſpells,
' Thy Edgar's doom'd to pine;
' O come! O come! my ſilver age
' Shall ſoften Merlin's haughty rage
' With beauty ſuch as thine.

' Yes, Merlin ſhall be taught to feel,
' Tho' hard as rock or temper'd ſteel;
' No longer—longer ſtay;"
Cordelia bending with a ſigh,
To Heav'n directs her ſtreaming eye,
The hermit points the way.

Scarce had the fair Cordelia trod
The confines of the bounded wood,
When, ſtrange! the hoary ſire
Seems thro' the ſhepherd's mean diſguiſe,
At once a warlike knight to riſe
In all a warrior's fire.

A ſnow-white plumage nods behind,
And moves to ev'ry waving wind,
His helmet lights the field;
A blazing corſlet ſhines before,
This hand a glitt'ring jav'lin bore,
And that an ample ſhield.

" Fear not, Cordelia! love like mine
' Could only equal charms like thine;
' 'Twas love plann'd the deceit:
' No Edgar pines in yonder tow'r,
' Here Merlin bends with all his pow'r
' A ſuppliant at thy feet.

' Ah! frown not! O forgive the guile,
' Abſolve thy ſuppliant with a ſmile,
' Obſequious on his knee!
' Theſe lordly domes, that tow'ring wall,
' Obedient to Cordelia's call,
' Shall own no queen but thee!"

Thus ſaid, enforcing his demand,
He fiercely preſs'd the virgin's hand,
That hand to Edgar giv'n:
" Protect me, Heav'n! (Cordelia ſaid),
' 'Tis injur'd virtue claims thy aid,
' Protect me, gracious Heav'n!"

Celeſtial warmth inſpires her breaſt,
She tow'rs a goddeſs all confeſt,
In all a goddeſs' heat:
New fires awake her ardent ſoul,
Her boſom ſwells, her eye-balls roll,
In conſcious virtue great.

Aſtoniſh'd Merlin gaz'd around,
Half-rooted in the trembling ground,
Unable to advance:
Amaz'd he drops his moony ſhield,
His helmet falls, and on the field
Unhurtful lay the lance.

Cordelia boldly ſnatch'd the ſword;
Impetuous on its magic lord
Replete with rage ſhe flew:
Her lifted arm directs the ſtroke,
Behold the fairy weapon broke!
The maſter vaniſh'd too!

Tho' thunders roar, and lightnings dart,
Fear ſhrinks not her undaunted heart,
Unmov'd ſhe ſtalks alone:
And while ſhe wins her native plain
Cautious, ſhe leaves this moral ſtrain,
Carv'd on an aged ſtone.

"The virtuous nymph, whoſe ſtrong defence
'Is adamantine innocence,
'Requires no further aid:
'Heav'n thwarts the meditated blow,
'Heav'n ever from the watchful foe
'Protects the modeſt maid."

Thus ends the ſweetly pleaſing tale;
The nymph regain'd her native vale,
And found her Edgar there:
In love united as in truth,
Cordelia bleſt the gentle youth,
And he the gentle fair.

B—— D——.

WINTER.

THE ſun far ſouthward bends his annual way;
The bleak north-eaſt wind lays the foreſt bare;
The fruit ungather'd quits the naked ſpray,
And dreary Winter reigns o'er earth and air.

No mark of vegetable life is ſeen,
No bird, no bird repeats his tuneful call,
Save the dark leaves of ſome rude ever-green,
Save the lone redbreaſt on the moſs-grown wall.

Yet ſtill there is who deem all ſeaſons fair,
Who know no idle, reſtleſs paſſions, ſtrife;
Contentment, ſmiling at each buſy care,
Contentment, thankful for the gifts of life.

She finds in Winter many a ſcene to pleaſe,
The morning's landſcape, fring'd with froſt-work gay;
The ſun at noon ſeen through the leafleſs trees,
The clear, calm æther at the cloſe of day.

She marks th' advantage ſtorms and clouds bellow,
When bluſt'ring Eurus purifies the air:
When moiſt Aquarius pours the fleecy ſnow,
That makes th' impregnate glebe a richer harveſt bear.

A CASE *of* CONSCIENCE.

OLD Paddy Scot, with none of the beſt faces,
Had a moſt knotty pate at ſolving caſes;
In any point could tell you to a hair,
When was a grain of honeſty to ſpare.
It happen'd, after pray'rs, one certain night,
At home he had occaſion for a light
To turn Socinus *, Leſſius, Eſcobar,
Fam'd Covarruvias, and the great Navarre:
And therefore, as he from the chapel came,
Extinguiſhing a yellow taper's flame,
By which juſt now he had devoutly pray'd,
The uſeful remnant to his ſleeve convey'd.
There happen'd a phyſician to be by,
Who thither came but only as a ſpy
To find out others' faults, but let alone
Repentance for the crimes that were his own.
This doctor follow'd Paddy; ſaid, "He lack'd
'To know what made a ſacrilegious fact."
Paddy, with ſtudious gravity, replies,
"That's as the place, or as the matter lies:
'If from a place unſacred you ſhould take
'A ſacred thing, this ſacrilege would make;
'Or an unſacred thing from ſacred place,
'There would be nothing diff'rent in the caſe;
'But, if both thing and place ſhould ſacred be, (agree."
'Twere height of ſacrilege, as doctors all
"Then," ſays the doctor, "for more light in this,
'To put a ſpecial caſe, were not amiſs.
'Suppoſe a man ſhould take a Common-Pray'r (ſpare."
'Out of a chapel where there's ſome to
"A Common-Pray'r!" ſays Paddy, "that would be
'A ſacrilege of an intenſe degree."
"Suppoſe that one ſhould, in theſe holidays
'Take thence a bunch of roſemary or bays."
"I'd not be too cenſorious in that caſe,
'But 'twould be ſacrilege ſtill from the place."
"What if a man ſhould from the chapel take
'A taper's end: ſhould he a ſcruple make,
'If homeward to his chambers he ſhould go,
'Whether 'twere theft, or ſacrilege, or no?"
The ſly inſinuation was perceiv'd;
Says Paddy, "Doctor, you may be deceiv'd,
'Unleſs in caſes you diſtinguiſh right;
'But this may be reſolv'd at the firſt ſight.
'As to the taper, it could be no theft,
'For it had done its duty, and was left:
'And ſacrilege in having it is none,
'Becauſe that in my ſleeve I now have one."

* Marianus Socinus, *an eminent civilian, born in* Tuſcany *in* 1482, *died in Auguſt* 1556. *He is introduced here, as are the following perſonages, for his great ſkill in caſuiſtry. He was grand-father to* Fauſtus Socinus, *the founder of the ſect which bears their name.*

THE REVIEW.

A Four Months' TOUR *through* FRANCE. 2 vols. 5 s. Kearſley.

THIS is a ſenſible and entertaining deſcription of the moſt capital places in France, enlivened with many anecdotes, and hath the marks of being faithfully given.—His obſervations on the cabinet at Chantilly, and our Britiſh muſeum, are worthy of particular attention, of which he gives this account.

"But I muſt not forget to mention the cabinet, which has lately been fitted up in the palace for the reception of a choice collection of foſſils, preſented to the prince by the king of Sweden. Almoſt every beauty of the mineral kingdom is here diſplayed in great abundance, with all its exquiſite diverſity of colours, ſpars, and precious ſtones, ſtudded by chance in lumps of rich ore, ſo as to have as fine an effect as the hand of art is capable of giving. There are alſo other natural productions of various kinds; but ſuch as would not be thought worthy, for their ſcarcity, to enter into the muſeum of a Sir Hans Sloane. However, ſmall as this collection is, you receive one pleaſure from it, which the great apartments of Bloomſbury do not give; I mean the opportunity of reading yourſelf an explanation of every thing you ſee, without troubling the perſon who ſhews it; who, if he is inclined, and able to give you proper information, can never anſwer the numberleſs queſtions that the many who are introduced muſt find neceſſary. Thoſe who viſit ſuch repoſitories are not in general people who are capable of claſſing common things under their proper heads, and much leſs the extraordinary. It may be ſaid, that there is a perſon appointed, whoſe buſineſs it is to inform thoſe who are ignorant, and anſwer their queſtions. I allow it—But then I cannot monopolize this perſon, nor lead him by the ear through the rooms, till he has given me the hiſtory of every thing in which I would be inſtructed. I ſuppoſe there is no one, who has ever viſited the London Muſeum, but will confeſs how highly diſagreeable the neceſſity of inceſſant queſtions is; and few modeſt men, who have not been content to remain in ignorance of many things, rather than purchaſe information at ſuch a price. Were ſlips of paper fixed on, or over every curioſity, deſcribing what it is, as in the prince of Conde's cabinet, I ſhould paſs through the apartments with much greater pleaſure; and I am ſatisfied that, by this means, I ſhould gain more knowledge in the few hours that are allotted, than in viſiting it every day for a twelvemonth, with thoſe who are appointed to ſhew it in the ſtate it is at preſent."

The following is his account of a French diverſion:

"Among the public ſpectacles, I muſt not forget to tell you of one that I little expected to have ſeen in France; I mean bull-baiting, and that more inhuman than even an Engliſh butcher can well conceive. The place appointed for this polite diverſion is a ſmall amphitheatre built of wood. Around the arena, in the antient manner, are the caves and dens for the beaſts of combat; and over theſe are the boxes and galleries for the ſpectators. As this ſpectacle was anounced by printed papers, Mr ——— and I had the curioſity to ſee how it was conducted, as the French beſtow very liberally on the Engliſh the title of a cruel nation, on account of the fondneſs the common people diſcover for this, and ſome other diverſions of the ſame ſort. It began with various combats of wolves, bears, and wild boars, with maſtiffs; but the bull was reſerved as a finiſhing ſtroke to ſatiate the cruelty of the ſpectators. It was not long before ours was ſufficiently glutted. The animal, in ſpringing to the firſt dog that entered, broke off his horn cloſe to his head againſt the wall. He was then defenceleſs; but they continued to ſend in maſtiffs to the number of fourteen, that were ſuffered to hang about him till he fell to the ground. This we did not ſee, for we could not ſtay the concluſion; but, as we heard from our ſervant, whom we left there, he was devoured alive for more than two hours; and that his noſe, tongue, eyes, and throat were eaten before he expired. Join with me here in retorting back on the French the appellation they beſtow on us, of *Peuple barbare.*"

A TOUR *in* IRELAND *in* 1775: *By Mr* TWISS. 5 s. Robſon.

AFTER traverſing Portugal and Spain, he next directed his feet to Ireland;

and ſome Iriſh publications ſay, he was glad to return ſoon again to England. Some of his obſervations are judicious reſpecting places and manners; but it ſeems as if an entertainment he received at Waterford, which is not mentioned in the Tour, filled him with prejudice againſt the whole country. Speaking of Dublin, he obſerves;

"In the year 1749, it was computed that, in the city and liberties of Dublin, there were two thouſand ale-houſes, three hundred taverns, and twelve hundred brandy-ſhops. In 1766, the number of houſes in Dublin was thirteen thouſand, one hundred and ninety-four; ſo that it is probable that the number of inhabitants ſurpaſſes one hundred thouſand."

As to the natural hiſtory of the Iriſh ſpecies, he ſays, they are only remarkable for the thickneſs of their legs, eſpecially thoſe of the plebeian females.

"St Patrick, the patron and tutelary ſaint of Ireland, was born about the middle of the fourth century. In his Life I find it recorded that he daily rehearſed the whole pſalter, with a great number of prayers; and that he mortified himſelf by "ſaying every night fifty pſalms in water." He is ſaid to have been canonized for having illuſtrated the Trinity by the compariſon of a ſhamrock, or trefoil: and, in honour of this apoſtle, Paddy is the popular Chriſtian name of the Iriſh. The name of Teague is likewiſe very common: It is derived from Thadeus."

In an Appendix to this Tour, the author hath given many excellent hints to travellers, particularly the following:

"If a traveller will but reflect, that, however elevated his rank, however reſpectable his connections, or however great his fortune may be in his own country, when he is abroad he ſtands only on his own ground, often without any poſſibility of claiming any friends or protectors: he will then be ſenſible of the neceſſity of *meriting friends and protectors among the natives*, who may occaſionally prove of infinite ſervice, notwithſtanding their inferiority, and who are ſometimes willing to forgive any little inadvertencies to foreigners, rather than to their own countrymen."

TORY OF THE TIMES

NOVEMBER 21.—*to* 28.

ITALY.

Turin, Oct. 31.

"THE king of Sardinia, finding great abuſes had crept into the inquiſition, has lately made a number of regulations, which has given the utmoſt ſatisfaction to the people. No perſon can now be impriſoned, by order of the inquiſitors, until the matter has been made known to his majeſty; upon which one or more of the privy-counſellors are commiſſioned to examine the priſoners in perſon; which done, they make their report to the king, and the priſoner is never given up to the mercy of the holy office until the matter has been thoroughly ſifted to the bottom. No man for the future muſt ſuffer death in the priſons of the inquiſition. Thus, ſince the power of the holy fiends has been ſo contracted by the king; and that they have been forbid to meddle in any degree with temporal matters, their dungeons are almoſt tenantleſs."

FRANCE.

Extract of a letter from Paris.

"Advice was yeſterday received in this city, that the king of Spain had iſſued a proclamation for encouraging ſeamen, of any nation whatever, to enter on board the Spaniſh navy. The above proclamation mentions, that every ſeaman who will enter ſhall receive a certain ſhare (a large ſhare) of prize-money. If he has a family, the wife ſhall receive her huſband's wages monthly from the proper office in the marine department."

PORTUGAL.

Liſbon, Oct. 15. "The king has juſt iſſued an edict, which grants a pardon to all his ſubjects who may have fled their country on account of criminal affairs, provided they will return and enter into his ſervice for five years.

"The Anglo-American privateers continue to cruize on our coaſts. One of them has taken an Engliſh ſhip juſt as ſhe was going to enter the Tagus. It is reported here that the Spaniſh ſquadron

had ſailed laſt Friday from Cadiz for Buenos-Ayres."

WEST-INDIES.

Extract of a letter from Jamaica.

"The Ferret brig, commanded by a lieutenant belonging to admiral Gayton's ſhip, arrived at Port-Royal from a cruize off Cape Francois, brings advice, that, meeting with a gale of wind, ſhe was obliged to put into the Cape, where ſhe continued three days; that the governor would not ſuffer any of the officers or crew to go on ſhore; and that there were ſeven large French men of war, frigates, and other veſſels of force, lying there, amongſt which were the Couronne of 74 guns, Le Tonant 80, Le Lion 64, Le Veille 64, and Le Flamant 50, three more ſhips, and one bomb."

AMERICA.

PHILADELPHIA, *Aug.* 18.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the American army to a gentleman in Saliſbury, dated Mount-Independence (oppoſite Ticonderago), Aug. 5.

"I herewith ſend you a liſt of our fleet, now ready for action, with the number of carriage and ſwivel guns for each, the names of the veſſels, and number of men to each.

"Royal Savage, capt. Wynkoop, 12 carriage guns, 9, 6 and 4 pounders, 10 ſwivels, and 50 men.—Enterpriſe, capt. Dixon, 12 carriage guns, 9, 6 and 4 pounders, 10 ſwivels, and 50 men.—Revenge, capt. Laman, 10 carriage guns, 4 and 2 pounders, 10 ſwivels, and 35 men.—Liberty, capt. Primer, 10 carriage guns, 4 and 2 pounders, 8 ſwivels, and 45 men.—Four gondolas, Mansfield, Simmons, Sumner, and Uſtins, captains. Each gondola carries 3 guns, one 12 and two 9 pounders, 8 ſwivels, and 45 men, well found in every particular. Three row-gallies on a new conſtruction, juſt ready to launch, and ten gondolas more will ſoon be ready. I cannot but think we ſhall be able, at all events, to maintain our ſuperiority on Lake Champlain."

Copy of a letter received at Goſport from an officer on board his Majeſty's frigate Milford, of 28 guns, John Burn, Eſq; commander, dated Halifax, Sept. 16.

"Since we arrived in Boſton Bay, which was in March laſt, I have the pleaſure to inform you that we have taken and re-taken 23 ſail of American prizes to our own ſhares, and carried moſt of them into Halifax; and have the pleaſure further to ſay, we have not had one man killed or died ſince we left England, which was in January laſt. We ſhall ſail in a day or two, on our former ſtation, before the mouth of Boſton Harbour, when we make no doubt of falling in with ſome more of their ſhips. We are extremely well manned, and every body in good ſpirits."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in New-York to his friend in Greenock, dated Sept. 20.

"The Yankies run from us as ſoon as we appear, and leave their field-pieces to the conquerors. Both armies are at preſent within muſket-ſhot of each other at King's Bridge, and we hourly expect a deciſive blow will be ſtruck. I have juſt now learned, that intelligence arrived yeſterday at our head-quarters, of gen. Burgoyne's army having come the length of Albany, and were proceeding on their march to join gen. Howe. This makes our general delay engaging for a day or two, till he thinks Burgoyne's army has got ſo cloſe behind them as to render their eſcape impoſſible, when he attacks them in front."

Extracts from two letters, dated Sept. 23, *and* 24. *and received from New-York, by the Earl of Halifax packet boat, capt. Boulderſon.*

"The rebel army, after ſuffering greatly in killed and wounded, in the ſeveral ſkirmiſhes with the king's troops ſince their landing on New-York iſland, begins to diminiſh. The Connecticut and Maſſachuſet militia are all gone home; ſo that their main rebel army is not ſuperior, even in numbers to gen. Howe's, whoſe force is daily increaſing. The three royal provincial battalions of gen. de Lancey, col. Cortland Skinner, and the diſtinguiſhed colonel, late major, Robert Rogers, are nearly compleated. The firſt commands on Long Iſland. Gen. Preſcott, col. Phillip Skene, and the celebrated engineer, lieut.-col. Campbell, late from the Eaſt-Indies, and now of Fraſer's regiment, are daily expected here in exchange for lord Stirling, gen. Sullivan, &c. A general exchange of priſoners, in the army and navy departments, is ſoon to take place. Gen. Howe had ſent Mr Sullivan to the congreſs with the declaration of Great Britain to the colonies; this produced an

nterview on Staten Iſland between the two Howes, on behalf of the crown, and Dr Franklin, Mr Edward Rutledge, and Mr John Adams, who, previous to any conference, required to be acknowledged as ambaſſadors from the free and independent ſtates of America; but were anſwered, that it was inadmiſſible; and conſequently they ſeparated *re infecta*. Mr Sullivan has repeatedly declared, that he, and moſt of his conſtituents, are perfectly ſatisfied with the terms of the declaration, and will no longer ſerve under a republican government. He is a man of ſenſe and ſpirit, and it is thought will prove friendly and uſeful to government. I forgot to mention that Mr Waſhington, preſently after the landing on New-York Iſland, narrowly eſcaped being made priſoner. He left Mr Apthorpe's houſe at Bloomingdale a few minutes only before the Britiſh light infantry entered it."

New-York, Sept. 24. "The people who ſet fire to New-York were thoſe who deſerted from the rebel army, and had ſworn allegiance to the king; and one of their principals had ingratiated himſelf ſo far into the Heſſian colonel's favour, who commanded at Long Iſland, that an intimacy enſued, which was carried to ſuch a length as to receive and pay viſits without the ceremony of meſſages; but one morning the villain took loaded piſtols concealed in his pockets, entered the tent, and unloaded the contents at the colonel, which happily miſſed him.—On hearing the firing, ſeveral of the officers ruſhed in and ſeized the villain, who were for putting him inſtantly to death; but the colonel interfered, and begged his life till he had time to repent, that he might not go into eternity with ſo heinous a crime to anſwer for.—He further obſerves the ſuperiority of the Heſſian riflemen to thoſe of the rebels: The former loaded and fired ſix times in a minute; whereas the latter could not fire above once in that time, and were incapable of doing execution unleſs they had a reſt for their pieces."

Extract of a letter from New-York, dated Sept. 26. to a gentleman in Birmingham.

"On the 22d gen. Howe left this garriſon 4000 ſtrong, under the command of gen. Robinſon, and made a feint, as if he intended attacking the rebels at King's-bridge with the main body of his army; previous meaſures had been taken to embark two ſquadrons, which was ſo privately done, that even the troops who were immediately engaged in the buſineſs knew not their deſtination till they were landed at Perth Amboy, which they took without oppoſition, together with 500 priſoners. Captain Watſon ſays, the provincials ſent down two fire-ſhips, whilſt the fire raged in New-York, to burn the fleet; but they were both ſunk by the activity of the captain of the Renown man of war, without any damage. In his paſſage home, capt. Watſon retook the Suffolk of London, capt. Dameur, laden with 400 hogſheads of ſugar, and 108 puncheons of rum."

New-York, Sept. 27. "When the American army landed on Long Iſland, they compelled every ſeventh man to bear arms; three days after that, one out of every four; and the next day, one out of every two, from 12 to 64 years of age; whom they forced away with them to New-York. The majority of thoſe are ſince returned to their allegiance and habitations in that iſland. The congreſs have been endeavouring to remove from Philadelphia, but the inhabitants have prevented them, declaring they ſhould remain to ſhare the ſame fate with themſelves. We have got part of the Jerſeys, and plenty of proviſions, good beef, veal, and mutton at 3d. halfpenny per pound, bread as cheap as in London, apples and peaches for gathering, and cabbages and potatoes in abundance. Some little time before we took New-York, a ſermon was preached there from Iſaiah xxi. 15. to animate and inflame the minds of the rebels, and depreciate the Britiſh."

New-York, Sept. 28. "The army have, for the laſt two days, been under orders to hold themſelves in readineſs to march, but whither no one knows; ſome think it is to King's-bridge, while others think it is intended to croſs the North River, and proceed through the Jerſeys towards Philadelphia. The inhabitants of New-York ſeemed well pleaſed at our arrival (thoſe, I mean, who ſtaid behind), as they were taught to believe that the king's forces would burn the town, and abuſe all the women: in ſhort, the rebel ſoldiery and their generals have propagated a number of lies againſt the king's forces, many of which our behaviour has already proved to be ſo. The acts of tyranny committed by the congreſs, and the officers appointed

by them, ſeem to ſay that they were the invaders, and not the king's forces. A gentleman, who has an eſtate of near a thouſand *per annum* in the Jerſeys, has been almoſt ruined by an order of the congreſs; all this year's crop of wheat (with which his ground abounded) has been taken off his hands by the liberty boys, and a number of pieces of paper given him for his corn, which he may get rid of as well as he can, and now the army is here, it will be no eaſy matter. Gen. Heiſter hearing that one of the Heſſians under his command, having ſtrolled from the army, was taken by the rebels, and immediately hung up, gave orders to his men to entrap ſome of the rebels; an opportunity ſoon offered, and three of them were brought in priſoners; two of whom gen. Heiſter, without any ceremony, hung up in the preſence of the third, to whom he gave his liberty, bidding him acquaint the rebels, that he would hang up two for every one of his men that he heard ſuffered by ſuch unmartial and barbarous treatment. I believe the general's ſpirited behaviour has put an end to the rebels cruelty to the Heſſians; all of whom, who ſhould happen to fall into their hands, they meant to ſerve in the ſame manner."

Extract of a letter from a captain of one of the tranſports at New-York, to his conſtituents in Glaſgow, dated New-York, Oct. 8.

"There has been nothing done between the armies ſince the 15th of Sept. when our forces landed at New-York, but the taking Paulus-hook, a fort in the Jerſeys, and an attempt made by the rebels on Montreſor iſland. They were informed by a ſailor, who had deſerted from one of the men of war, that there were no more than 30 men on the iſland; they therefore immediately ſent off 250 men, under the command of a major, in flat-boats, to bring them priſoners. Whenever they landed, the major called out to take the Highlanders priſoners; but they found themſelves miſtaken; they were ſo warmly received that 56 of them were killed and drowned, and 13 and the major taken priſoners. In the ſkirmiſh there were only 30 of the 71ſt regiment, five of whom were killed, and ſix ſlightly wounded. They took one of the rebel boats, and ſunk the another; the reſt put off, and made away."

ENGLAND.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 16.—*to* 23.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Nov. 18. The houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of privileges, lord Scarſdale in the chair, to conſider the claim of the Borthwick peerage. The lord advocate of Scotland, who was retained in the cauſe, being abſent from town, lord Marchmont moved the committee to adjourn till the parties and counſel could come properly prepared, which was agreed to.

The land-tax bill, attended by above twenty members of the houſe of commons, was preſented, read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time.

The houſe roſe a little before five o'clock, and adjourned to this day.

Nov. 20. The houſe met a few minutes before two o'clock.—His majeſty came down about two, attended by the ſeveral officers of ſtate; and being ſeated on the throne, ſent a meſſenger by Mr Quarme, deputy-uſher of the black rod, to the commons, commanding the attendance of that honourable houſe immediately in the houſe of peers.

The ſpeaker and the houſe being come up, his majeſty was pleaſed to give the royal aſſent to a bill, intitled, "An act for granting to his majeſty a tax of four ſhillings in the pound upon all lands, places, penſions, and hereditaments within England, principality of Wales, and town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, for the ſervice of the year 1777; and that a proportionable ceſs, according to the 9th article of the treaty of Union, be laid upon that part of Great Britain called Scotland.—The houſe roſe at a quarter after three, and adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Nov. 16. The houſe met at two o'clock, when Sir Charles Whitworth reported the following reſolutions from the committee of ſupply of Friday, which were ſeverally agreed to.

"That 20,734 men, including 3,212 invalids, be employed for guards and garriſons in Great Britain for the ſervice of the year 1777; and that 648,009l. 16s. 5d. be granted for maintaining the

ſame.—That 11,473l. 18s. 6d. be granted for general and ſtaff-officers in Great Britain for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 949,721l. 11s. 3d. be granted for maintaining the out forces and garriſons for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 47,178l. 3d. be granted for difference of pay between the Britiſh and Iriſh eſtabliſhment of one regiment of light dragoons, and ſix regiments of foot ſerving in North America, for the year 1777.—That 56,774l. 19s. 4d. 1-half be granted for the pay of five battalions of Hanoverians ſerving at Gibraltar and Minorca, and for proviſions for the three battalions at Gibraltar, for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 336,932l. 2s. 6d. 3-4ths, be granted for 12,667 Heſſians for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 18,282l. 15s. 6d. 1-4th, be granted for the pay of a regiment of foot of Hanau for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 17,376l. 8s. 2d. be granted for the pay of a regiment of Waldeck for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 93,947l. 15s. 8d. be granted for the pay of 4,300 Brunſwickers for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 41,427l. 7s. 2d. 1-4th, be granted for proviſions for the foreign troops in North America during the laſt campaign.—That 6,617l. 5s. 3d. 1-4th, be granted to make good a deficiency of laſt ſeſſion of the Heſſian troops to the 24th December 1776.—That 1013l. 16s. 10d. 3-4ths, be granted for a deficiency of laſt ſeſſion for the Hanau troops to the 24th of December 1776.—That 26,053l. 7s. 4d. be granted for the charges of the artillery for the foreign troops for the ſervice of the year 1777.—That 5,152l. 12s. 3d. 3-4ths, be granted for the charge of the foreign troops for the ſervice of the year 1776.—That 13,973l. 19s. granted laſt ſeſſions for artillery for Heſſe Caſſel, for 1776, be granted towards defraying the charges of artillery of foreign troops for 1777.—That 3,383l. 6s. 8d. granted laſt ſeſſion for the artillery of Hanau, for 1776, be applied towards defraying the charge of artillery for the foreign troops for the year 1777.—That 320,111l. 18s. 11d. be granted for the charge of the office of ordnance, for land-ſervice for the year 1777.—That 272,705l. 18s. 1d. be granted to make good the extraordinary ſervices performed by the office of ordnance for land-ſervice, and not provided for in the year 1776."

Land-tax bill reported, and ordered to be engroſſed.

Committee of ſupply and ways and means deferred till Monday.

The houſe roſe at half after three o'clock, and adjourned to Monday.

Nov. 18. The houſe with difficulty made up a ſufficient number of members to carry the land-tax bill up to the lords, and to proceed on other buſineſs.

The houſe after ſitting about ten minutes, roſe at half after three, and adjourned to next day.

Nov. 19. Sir Charles Whitworth reported the following reſolution from the committee of ways and means, which was agreed to, and a bill ordered in purſuant thereto.

That the duties laid on malt, mum, cyder and perry, by an act of the 16th of his preſent majeſty, and which were to continue in force till the 24th of June 1777, be further continued till the 24th of June 1778.

Ordered to be laid before the houſe an account of the quantities of grain warehouſed in the different ports of this kingdom.

Deferred ways and means, and the ſupply, till to-morrow.

Nov. 20. The houſe met at two o'clock, and waited on his majeſty in the houſe of peers. As ſoon as the ſpeaker returned, he acquainted the houſe, that he had been preſent when his majeſty gave the royal aſſent to the land-tax bill for the ſervice of the year 1777.

The malt-bill was preſented, read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time.

The mutiny-bill went through a committee, and was ordered to be reported next day.

The marine mutiny-bill was read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time.

The houſe roſe at half after three.

Nov. 21. Sir Charles Whitworth informed the houſe; that he was very ſorry to find a motion of his the other day, for accounts of the expenditure of public money upon turnpike-roads to be laid before the houſe, had created a very falſe alarm in the country: that it was miſtakenly underſtood to be from all turnpikes; whereas it was an order only for thoſe in the neighbourhood of London: that he was ſorry ſuch a miſconception ſhould have gone abroad, as

there was not the leaſt foundation for the apprehenſion: that he was happy, however, to find that even the mention he had made in the houſe had had good effects, ſince he was informed that there had, ſince that day, been double the men employed upon the roads alluded to when he moved for the accounts being laid before the houſe: that the committee was to meet above-ſtairs the next day; and he hoped the gentlemen would attend, as it was a matter of conſequence, and ſeriouſly deſerved the attention of every one.

Sir George Saville made his motion for reſcinding and diſcharging from the journals of the houſe the votes whereby Mr Rumbold was declared guilty of ſubordination of perjury, and ordering the attorney-general to proſecute him. The attorney-general ſtated, in a maſterly manner, the incompetency of the evidence on which both the gentlemen, Mr Sykes and Mr Rumbold, had been reputed guilty; and, after an elaborate ſpeech, the two votes reſpecting Mr Rumbold were reſcinded, and ordered to be diſcharged from the journals.

Then a ſimilar petition and motion were brought in for Mr Sykes, and carried without a diviſion.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE, *Nov.* 23.

Whitehall, Nov. 23. 1776.

The following letter from Sir Guy Carleton was this day received by lord George Germaine:

On board the Maria, off Crown Point, Oct. 14. 1776.

"*My* LORD,

"THE rebel fleet upon Lake Champlain has been entirely defeated in two actions; the firſt on the 11th inſt. between the iſland of Valicour and the Main; and the ſecond on the 13th, within a few leagues of Crown Point.

"We have taken Mr Waterburgh, the ſecond in command, one of their brigadier-generals, with two of their veſſels, and ten others have been burnt and deſtroyed; only three of fifteen ſail, a liſt of which I tranſmit, having eſcaped. For farther particulars, I refer your lordſhip to lieut. Dacres, who will be the bearer of this letter, and had a ſhare in both actions, particularly the firſt, where his gallant behaviour in the Carleton ſchooner, which he commanded, diſtinguiſhed him ſo much as to merit great commendation; and I beg recommend him to your lordſhip's tice and favour: At the ſame tim cannot omit taking notice to your lo ſhip of the good ſervice done, in the a action, by the ſpirited conduct of a num ber of officers and men of the corps of artillery, who ſerved the gun-boats, which, together with the Carleton, ſuſtained, for many hours, the whole fire of the enemy's fleet, the reſt of our veſſels not being able to work up near enough to join effectually in the engagement.

"The rebels, upon the news reaching them of the defeat of their naval force, ſet fire to all the buildings in and near Crown Point, and retired to Ticonderoga.

"The ſeaſon is ſo far advanced, that I cannot yet pretend to inform your lordſhip whether any thing further can be done this year. I am, &c.

GUY CARLETON."

Liſt of Rebel Veſſels, on Lake Champlain, *before their defeat.*

SCHOONERS.

Royal Savage, 8 ſix-pounders, and 4 four-pounders—Went on ſhore, was ſet fire to, and blown up.

Revenge, 4 ſix-pounders, and 4 four-pounders—Eſcaped.

A ſloop, 10 four-pounders—Eſcaped.

ROW GALLIES.

Congreſs, 2 eighteen-pounders in the bow, 2 twelve and 2 two-pounders in the ſtern, and 6 ſix pounders in the ſides—Blew up.

Waſhington, ſame force—Taken.

Trumble, ditto—Eſcaped.

The Lee, a cutter, 1 nine-pounder in the bow, 1 twelve-pounder in the ſtern, and 4 ſix-pounders in the ſides—Run into a bay, and not known whether deſtroyed.

GONDOLAS.

Boſton, 1 eighteen-pounder in the bow, 2 twelve-pounders in the ſides—Sunk.

Jerſey, ditto—Taken.

One, name unknown, ſame force—Run on ſhore.

Five ditto, ditto—Blown up.

Other Veſſels not in the Action.

A ſchooner, 8 four-pounders—Sent from their fleet for proviſions.

A galley, ſaid to be of greater force than thoſe mentioned above—Fitting out at Ticonderoga.

G. C.

Admiralty-office, Nov. 23.

Lieut. Dacres, of the royal navy, arrived here early this morning from Quebec, and brings the letters and accounts, of which the following are copies.

Copy of a letter from Captain Douglas of the Isis, to Mr Stephens, dated at Quebec, Oct. 21.

"HAVING for the ſpace of ſix weeks attended the naval equipment for the important expedition on the Lake Champlain, I, on the 4th inſt. ſaw with unſpeakable joy, the re conſtructed ſhip, now called the Inflexible, and commanded by lieut. Schank, her rebuilder, ſail from St John's, twenty-eight days after her keel was laid, towards the place of rendezvous; taking in her 18 twelve-pounders beyond the Shoal, which is on this ſide the Ile aux Noix, in her way up.

"The prodigies of labour which have been effected ſince the rebels were driven out of Canada, in creating, re-creating, and equipping a fleet of above thirty fighting veſſels of different ſorts and rates, and all carrying cannon, ſince the beginning of July, together with the tranſporting over land, and afterwards dragging up the two rapids of St Tereſe and St John's, thirty long-boats, the flat-bottomed boats, a gondola weighing about thirty tons, and above four hundred batteaux, almoſt exceed belief. His excellency the commander in chief of the army, and all the other generals, are of opinion, that the ſailors of his majeſty's ſhips and tranſports have (far beyond the uſual limits of their duty) exerted themſelves to the utmoſt on this great and toilſome occaſion; nor has a man of that profeſſion uttered a ſingle word of diſcontent, amidſt all the hardſhips they have undergone; ſo truly patriotic are the motives by which they are actuated.—To crown the whole, above 200 prime ſeamen of the tranſports, impelled by a due ſenſe of their country's wrongs, did moſt generouſly engage themſelves to ſerve in our armed veſſels during the expedition, and embarked accordingly, ſuch having been our unremitting toils. I am happy beyond expreſſion in hereby acquainting my lords commiſſioners of the admiralty, that the deſtruction of almoſt the whole of the rebel fleet in two ſeveral battles, on the 11th and 13th inſt. is our reward.

"I have received a letter from capt. Pringle, of the Lord Howe armed ſhip, who commands the officers and ſeamen on the Lake, and who beſtows the higheſt encomiums on their behaviour in both engagements. The rebels did by no means believe it poſſible for us to get upon Lake Champlain this year; were much ſurpriſed at the firſt ſight of the van of our force; but ran into immediate and utter confuſion, the moment a three-maſted ſhip made her appearance; being a phœnomenon they never ſo much as dreamed of. Thus have his majeſty's faithful ſubjects here, (contrary to a crude but prevailing idea) by ſtraining every nerve in their country's cauſe, out-done them in working as much as in fighting. The ſhip Inflexible, with the Maria and Carleton ſchooners, all reconſtructions, did the whole of the ſecond day's buſineſs, the flat-bottomed radeau called the Thunderer, and the gondola called the Loyal Convert, with the gun-boats, not having been able to keep up with them. The ſaid gondola was taken from the rebels the day the ſiege of Quebec was raiſed. The loſs we have ſuſtained, conſidering the great ſuperiority of the inſurgents, is very ſmall, conſiſting of between thirty and forty men killed and wounded, ſeamen, ſoldiers, artillery-men and all; eight whereof were killed out-right, and ſix wounded, on board of the Carleton. As to farther particulars I muſt refer you to lieut. Dacres, who, in juſtice to his merit, for the part he bore in deſtroying the rebel fleet, I am happy in ſending upon this occaſion to their lordſhips in the Stag tranſport; as alſo in thereby complying with the general's deſire, who, for the ſame reaſon, is pleaſed to honour him with the conveyances of his diſpatches."

A Liſt of his Majeſty's Naval Force on Lake Champlain.

Ship Inflexible, lieut. Schank, 18 twelve-pounders.

Schooner Maria, lieut. Starke, 14 ſix-pounders.

Schooner Carleton, lieut. Dacres, 12 ſix-pounders.

Radeau Thunderer, lieut. Scott, 6 twenty-four, 6 twelve-pounders; 2 howitzers.

Gondola Loyal Convert, lieut. Longcroft, 7 nine-pounders.

Twenty gun-boats, each a braſs field-piece, ſome twenty-fours to nines, ſome with howitzers.

four long-boats, with each a carriage-gun, ſerving as armed tenders.
Twenty-four long-boats, with proviſions.

A liſt of the Rebel Fleet on Lake Champlain.

Schooner Royal Savage, 8 ſix-pounders, and 4 four-pounders; burnt, the 11th of October, at Valicour.
Schooner Revenge, 4 ſix-pounders and fours; eſcaped to Ticonderoga the 13th of October.
Sloop ——, 10 four-pounders; eſcaped to ditto the 13th of October.
Cutter Lee, 1 nine-pounder in her bow, 1 twelve-pounder in her ſtern, and 2 ſix-pounders in her ſides; abandoned the 13th of October.
Galley Congreſs, 2 eighteen-pounders in her bow, 2 twelve-pounders in her ſtern, and 6 ſix-pounders in her ſides; run on ſhore and burnt the 13th of October.
Galley Waſhington, 1 eighteen and 1 twelve-pounder in her bow, 2 nine-pounders in her ſtern, and 6 ſix-pounders in her ſides; taken the 13th of October.
Galley Trumble, like the Waſhington; eſcaped to Ticonderoga the 13th of October.
Eight gondolas, carry 1 eight-pounder in the bow, and 2 nine-pounders in the ſides. Some of theſe had four guns in their ſides. One taken the 12th, one ſunk the 11th, four burnt the 13th, one eſcaped, and one miſſing.
Schooner ——, taken from major Skene, was gone for proviſions.
Galley Gates, expected to join them in a few days.

A liſt of the ſeamen detached from his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels in the river St Lawrence, to ſerve on Lake Champlain.

The Iſis 100, Blonde 70, Triton 60, Garland 30, Canceaux 40, Magdalen, Brunſwick, and Gaſpee 18, Treaſury Armed Brigs 90, Fell 30, Charlotte (lately wrecked) 9, both province armed veſſels; Volunteers from no ſhip 9, ditto from the tranſports 214: Total 670, excluſive of eight officers, and nineteen petty officers.

Copy of a letter from capt. Thomas Pringle, on board the Maria, off Crown Point, October 15.

"IT is with the greateſt pleaſure that I embrace this opportunity of congratulating their lordſhips upon the victory completed the 13th of this month, by his majeſty's fleet under my command, upon Lake Champlain.

"Upon the 11th, I came up with the rebel fleet commanded by Benedict Arnold. They were at anchor under the iſland Valicour, and formed a ſtrong line, extending from the iſland to the weſt ſide of the continent. The wind was ſo unfavourable, that, for a conſiderable time, nothing could be brought in action with them; but the gun-boats, the Carleton ſchooner, commanded by Mr Dacres (who brings their lordſhips this), by much perſeverance, at laſt got to their aſſiſtance; but, as none of the other veſſels of the fleet could then get up, I did not think it by any means adviſeable to continue ſo partial and unequal a combat; conſequently, with the approbation of his excellency gen. Carleton, who did me the honour of being on board the Maria, I called off the Carleton and gun-boats, and brought the whole fleet to anchor in a line as near as poſſible to the rebels, that their retreat might be cut off; which purpoſe was, however, fruſtrated by the extreme obſcurity of the night; and in the morning the rebels had got a conſiderable diſtance from us up the lake.

"Upon the 13th, I again ſaw eleven ſail of their fleet making off to Crown-Point, which, after a chaſe of ſeven hours, I came up with in the Maria, having the Carleton and Inflexible a ſmall diſtance aſtern, the reſt of the fleet almoſt out of ſight. The action began at twelve o'clock, and laſted two hours; at which time Arnold, in the Congreſs galley, and five gondolas, ran on ſhore, and were directly abandoned, and blown up by the enemy; a circumſtance they were greatly favoured in, by the wind being off ſhore, and the narrowneſs of the lake. The Waſhington galley ſtruck during the action, and the reſt made their eſcape to Ticonderoga.

"The killed and wounded in his majeſty's fleet, including the artillery in the gun-boats, do not amount to forty; but, from every information I have yet got, the loſs of the enemy muſt indeed be very conſiderable.

"Many particulars, which their lordſhips may wiſh to know, I muſt at preſent take the liberty of referring you to Mr Dacres for; but, as I am well convinced his modeſty will not permit him to ſay how great a ſhare he had in this

victory, give me leave to assure you, that, during both actions, nothing could be more pointedly good than his conduct. I must also do the justice the officers and seamen of this fleet merit, by saying, that every person under my command exerted themselves to act up to the character of British seamen."

A copy of the marquis de Grimaldi's letter to the governor of Bilboa is handed about, in the Spanish language, relative to the American corsair, which had taken five English ships, and had been detained at Bilboa, at the request of the English vice-consul, the substance of which letter is nearly as follows:—"That having received advice from the governor of Bilboa respecting the detention of an American ship, named the Hawke, capt. John Lee, and the several attestations of the persons concerned, which had been laid before his majesty, he had been pleased to declare, "That in consequence of the amity subsisting between his Catholic majesty and the king of Great Britain, he should maintain a perfect neutrality during the present war; that he should not give any aid to the colonists; but should not deny their being admitted into any ports of his dominions, while they conformed to the laws of the country."—In consequence of which the governor was ordered to set at liberty the American vessel, to deliver back his papers, and to supply him with provisions, water, &c. (care being taken that no prohibited goods be sent on board), as should enable him to proceed on his voyage. Dated at St Ildefonso, Oct. 7. 1776.

(Signed) El Marquis de GRIMALDI."

Advices from Paris assures us, that the combined fleets of France and Spain will consist in Europe, fit for sea, of forty-six men of war of the line, twenty-eight French, and eighteen Spanish, and twenty-three frigates from thirty-six to eighteen guns. Besides this fleet in Europe, Spain has now in South-America and the West Indies, fifteen men of war of the line, and France eleven, with a proportionable number of frigates, sloops, and vessels. Taking then the French and Spanish armaments in America and Europe together, they will consist of *seventy-two* men of war of the line, which when we know that the intentions of those powers are *hostile*, and that the most sanguine promises of lord Bristol did not go farther than that we should have a fleet of *forty* men of war of the line fit for service by the 1st of March, is a matter of most melancholy consideration.

By a private letter from Paris we learn, that the minister of the marine department there has been positively informed, that not only France, but even France and Spain united, are not able at present to wage a naval war with Great Britain without the assistance of America. This question, with all its evident and remote consequences, is supposed greatly to engage the attention of the French cabinet, and to embarrass them for some days past.

An English frigate, stationed by admiral Gayton to cruize off the Havannah, to watch the motions of the Spanish fleet in that harbour, has been attacked within three leagues of the above place by three Spanish men of war, when after a resolute resistance she was obliged to make off, with the loss of her main-top-mast and bow-sprit, in which distressed situation she has since arrived at Jamaica.

They write from Paris, that a certain Scots officer, having imprudently expressed a desire of affronting Silas Dean, ambassador from the American congress, was prevented by an order from the court, authorising the putting him under arrest; but that, through the good offices and generous interposition of Mr Dean, the Scotsman, after proper concessions, was discharged.

A correspondent in France writes, that there are not fewer than a thousand English people now in Calais, double that number at Dunkirk, and perhaps as many at Boulogne and other towns on the French coast. The dearness of provisions, high taxes, press, and oppression, drive the people here as fast from England as it has long done from Ireland.

We have advice of a violent hurricane at Barbadoes, by which the whole place had greatly suffered; also, the worm had made great havock; the canes, and all the fruits of the earth are mostly destroyed. The accounts from Guadaloupe and Marigalante are dreadful; no person, at any of the islands, will purchase a slave; so bad is the appearance of things, the crops totally destroyed; coffee-trees stript; houses overturned; and no verdure on the face of the country; several ships, loaded at Basseterre in Guadaloupe, foundered at their anchors.

A letter from Canada, dated Montreal, Oct. 17. ſays, " It will hardly be believed in ſome future time, that two large fleets were fitted out upon a lake of freſh water; and yet, Sir, it is true.—On the ſide of the rebels there were ſixteen ſail, of what force I do not exactly know: On the royal part there were a ſhip, two ſchooners, a floating battery, a gondola, and twenty-eight gun-boats. They fought; and I have the pleaſure to acquaint you, that, by advice juſt received, the whole of the rebel fleet are deſtroyed, except one or two that cannot be found.—There were three engagements. In the firſt their largeſt veſſel was drove on ſhore, and burnt; in the ſecond five more were burnt, and two taken, manned, and added to our fleet. I have not the particulars of the laſt engagement. The ſame expreſs brings advice of our army having taken Crown-point. I hope ſoon to ſay as much of Ticonderoga, and then the way will be open to Albany, where I hope a part of the two armies will meet before winter."

A letter from Corke contains the following intelligence, " The armed tranſports the Polly, Hutchins, and Jolliff, Read, arrived at Cove on the 14th from New-York; they left that city the 11th of laſt month; the captains aſſure me, that eight days before they ſailed from New-York, advice had been received, that gen. Burgoyne had croſſed the lakes, and that the rebels had fled from Crown Point and Ticonderoga; that gen. Burgoyne had got to Albany, and the people in general at New-York expected him there in one week after the 11th of October; that the light horſe had arrived the day before they came away; the Heſſians were expected every hour; and that gen. Howe was waiting for their arrival and gen. Burgoyne; that he was encamped within cannon ſhot of the rebels; that the latter had broke down King's-bridge to ſtop deſertion, but had again repaired it for fear of their army on the New-York ſide being cut off; that the king's army was very healthy; that the town's people were flocking into town from both the Jerſeys and Connecticut ſides every day with their goods and effects; that the rebels had a large army at Philadelphia, but that the Quakers had ſent to gen. Howe to beg the protection of the king's troops."

By a gentleman that is arrived in the laſt ſhip from New-York we learn, that he left Philadelphia very lately, making his way through the Jerſeys to New-York; and that a general murmur of diſcontent prevailed amongſt all ranks of the deluded provincials, in the different places through which he paſſed; one and all exclaiming againſt the congreſs, as the inſidious authors of their ruin; and wiſhing for a ſpeedy reconciliation with their mother-country, as being the only poſſible means of averting the ruin that threatens them.

We are aſſured from good authority, that adminiſtration have given ſuch inſtructions to the commiſſioners lord Howe and gen. Howe, relative to the terms to be offered to America, that it is impoſſible the latter ſhould refuſe them, unleſs ſhe is abſolutely determined to ſeparate herſelf from this country, without a wiſh to agree to any conditions, however favourable.

The principal impediment to a reconciliation being concluded on, between gen. Howe and the two delegates, now at his camp is, on account of the former refuſing to ſign a free pardon, and a full indemnity, to protect the lives and perſons of Meſſrs Hancock and Adams, the leaders and firſt movers of the republican commotions, on the other ſide the Atlantic;—the general, it is ſaid, after taking four and twenty hours to conſider of the matter, informed them, he was ſorry to find himſelf not likely to be juſtified by his country, in yielding to the terms propoſed.

It is ſuppoſed gen. Lee has declined the expedition which was intended againſt St Auguſtine from Georgia, as letters from that place, dated the 30th of September, make no mention of their being apprehenſive of any force coming againſt them, but that the garriſon was in good health and high ſpirits: and the Betſey, capt. Loſhouſe, was to ſail for England very ſhortly after.

The Pallas man of war, which is arrived at Spithead, from Jamaica, has brought over 200,000 l. in ſpecie, being a larger ſum of money than has been imported by any one ſhip for many years.

A report is current, that in conſequence of ſome diſpatches received from lord Grantham at Madrid, his lordſhip, by his particular requeſt, is recalled.

Yeſterday morning the hon. Charles Fox ſet out for Dover on his way to France.

The following ships are now in commission at Plymouth:

	Guns.		Guns.
Royal George	100	Boyne	70
Ocean	90	Belleisle	70
Queen	90	Somerset	70
Union	90	Fame	70
Foudroyant	84	Monmouth	64
Prince of Wales	74	Intrepid	64
Albion	74	Prudent	64
Torbay	74	Bienfaisant	64
Hercules	74	Nonsuch	64
Yarmouth	74	Raisonable	64
Shrewsbury	74	Burford	64
Kent	74	Apollo	32
Conqueror	74	Southampton	32

Orders have been received at Chatham for his majesty's ship Victory, of 100 guns, supposed to be the largest in the royal navy, to be fitted out with the greatest expedition for the channel service: we hear that the earl of Bristol is to hoist his flag on board her.

Yesterday admiral Keppel had the honour to kiss the king's hand, on being appointed to the command of the fleet of observation.

Admiral Keppel was sent for to court on Wednesday, and the king asked him to command his fleet. The gallant admiral replied, his m——— had a right to command his services, but he begged it to be considered, that he accepted of the command from the k—, and that he would receive no orders from lord S——, for he knew nothing of that gentleman. The king smiled, and replied, he desired it to be considered that the command and orders came only from him.

Monday lord George Gordon, second brother to the duke of Gordon, was appointed to the command of a ship of war now at Portsmouth, for which he had the honour to kiss the king's hand.

The fleet of observation, to rendezvous at Spithead, is to consist of fourteen sail of the line and two frigates. The rest of the ships which were commissioned are to remain at the several ports where they are fitted out, but to take on board all their stores, and be ready for sea at twenty-four hours notice.

Yesterday the earl of Buckinghamshire was appointed lord-lieutenant of the kingdom of Ireland, and at the same time had the honour to kiss the king's hand.

On Tuesday the court of King's Bench was moved against a money-broker, at the suit of lord Mountstewart, pretending to have been commissioned by his lordship to raise two several sums of 2400 l. each, on bonds, for which the broker said his lordship agreed to pay for each sum 400 l. *per ann.* for his life, being just six years purchase. The counsel who moved the court expatiated warmly on the injury done to his lordship's character by such reports having been spread about, and that his noble father had been greatly affected thereby, whose health was in a declining way. He then gave an account of the proceedings of the broker in the affair, which were afterwards repeated in an affidavit read in court. Lord Mansfield on hearing the affidavit granted the rule.

PRIZES *drawn in the* State Lottery, *from* 50 *l. and upwards.*

No.		L.	No.	L.
22,915		5000	59,035	1000
4,187		5000	45,559	1000
25,590		2000	30,018	1000
6,714		2000	43,554	1000
57,470	20l.	1000	23,389	500
35,285	first	1000	46,652	500
31,923	dr.	1000	15,722	500
54,225		1000	5,389	500
37,540		1000	393	500
9,425		1000	18,950	500

Prizes of 100 l.

30486 26578 56219 28013 48791 58891
50347 30822 56145 14198 8602 34029
31186 34827 40522 26651 11154 10961
54384 7833 58227 4045 39499 25630
32912 8036 6888 2278 54541 58684
31941 56052 50553 423 11561 46191
21480 2710 54223 2469 30977 5964
12171 10011 11215 58596 9310 16689
41023 34075.

Prizes of 50 l.

46785 1081 31122 29262 21822 9337
21583 43243 11481 51242 37034 41545
44213 58531 29493 56467 18076 13834
20321 3708 15209 56944 52990 53641
20054 59725 591 20449 17451 57347
32441 44795 40330 1574 13663 30607
35502 27430 4889 59084 51047 33645
58892 30757 44585 28795 36586 2615
12885 57148 5983 50399 50396 42394
44811 31492 53266 52817 54971 3090
41658 15295 33779 57765 4276 243
57680 3104 28809 15601 11583 33173
10504 41361 48187 13782 7506 6629
46796 30056 33501 57262 30588 24101
22295 8106 52303 18413 44237 758
13623 7633 19837 10664 49080 55317
13170 51948 44623 17550 49897 42354
50444 36634 59233 37229 42494 9231
28647 7546 5100 18754 56994 42910
55297 8415 49758 39498 32064 13727
26357 16662 4678 14856.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH, NOVEMBER 28.

In ſome late accounts of the burning of New-York by the provincials, mention was made of a New-England officer being detected in ſetting fire to ſome of the houſes: he was deſervedly put to death on the ſpot. In ſearching his pockets, his commiſſion was found, and ſent to Aberdeen by the ſoldier who detected and killed him. The commiſſion is printed; the words in Italic characters are filled up in writing.

In CONGRESS.

The delegates of the united colonies of New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſet's-bay, Rhode Iſland, Connecticut, New-York, Jerſey, Pennſylvania, the counties of Newcaſtle, Kent, and Suſſex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, to *Richard Brown, Eſq*;

"We repoſing eſpecial truſt and confidence in your patriotiſm, valour, conduct, and fidelity, DO by theſe preſents conſtitute and appoint you to be *firſt lieutenant of the ſecond company of rifle-men, whereof Robert Cluggage is captain, in the ſecond regiment of foot, commanded by colonel William Thomſon*, in the army of the united colonies, raiſed for the defence of American liberty, and for repelling every hoſtile invaſion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to diſcharge the duty of *firſt lieutenant*, by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do ſtrictly charge and require all officers and ſoldiers under your command, to be obedient to your orders, as *their firſt lieutenant*. And you are to obſerve and follow ſuch orders and directions from time to time as you ſhall receive from this or a future congreſs of the united colonies, or committee of congreſs, for that purpoſe appointed, or commander in chief for the time being of the army of the united colonies, or any other your ſuperior officer according to the rules and diſcipline of war, in purſuance of the truſt repoſed in you. This commiſſion to continue in force until revoked by this or a future congreſs.

By order of the congreſs,
JOHN HANCOCK, Preſident.
Charles Thomſon, Secretary."

June 25. 1775.

An additional tax upon wines, and a tax upon all tickets uſed in all playhouſes, aſſemblies, concerts, and other places of public amuſement, are, it is ſaid, to make part of the ways and means for 1777.

A letter from the north mentions a melancholy accident which happened lately to Mr Balfour of the Kirktoun of Lethindy. He had rode from home on Sunday ſe'en-night, and ſome time after the horſe was found without his rider, the bridle in one place, and the ſaddle in another; but, after the moſt diligent ſearch, Mr Balfour could not be found.

The earl of Balcarras, who was to to have filled the chair of the Moſt Antient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Maſons in the kingdom of Scotland, for the two next enſuing years, being in Canada with his regiment, the Brethren, we hear, are to make choice of Sir William Forbes of Monymuſk, Bart. for that high office; and, as the feaſt of St Andrew happens this year upon a Saturday, it is expected that there will be the moſt numerous meeting that has been upon any ſuch occaſion. It is ſaid that more than ordinary preparations have been made to conduct the proceſſion from the Parliament-houſe to the Aſſembly-hall, and every thing elſe with a dignity becoming ſo reſpectable a fraternity.

Robert M'Queen, Eſq; advocate, has received a letter from lord Suffolk, acquainting him, that his majeſty has been pleaſed to appoint him one of the lords of council and ſeſſion, in the place of the late lord Coalſton.—We hear lord Suffolk has declared, that, upon the death of any judge of the court of ſeſſion, an offer of the vacant ſeat ſhall be made to that lawyer who is at the head of the bar.

On Thurſday laſt the rev. Mr Robert Walker, jun. was ſettled as miniſter of Cramond, in the room of the rev. Mr Charles Stuart, who lately reſigned that charge.

Yeſterday the general ſeſſions met here, in order to receive the report of their committee, formerly appointed to attend the preſbytery of Auchterarder, to looſe the paſtoral relation betwixt the rev. Mr Kempt and the pariſh of Trinity-Gaſk, when they appointed Thurſday the 19th of December next for receiving Mr Kempt as one of the miniſters of this city.

Same day the honourable Board of Truſtees for Manufactures, &c. were pleaſed to appoint Mr David Loch in-

ſpector-general of the woolen manufactures in Scotland; a circumſtance which we believe will be highly agreeable to moſt of our readers.—We are well informed, that Mr Loch was offered a good appointment to ſettle in a large manufacturing village in England, which he declined accepting, till he ſhould ſee the trade and manufactures of Scotland on a proſperous and flouriſhing footing.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

I HAVE read with attention your correſpondent Mr J—— ——'s letter, dated from the *Banks of White-water:* and am much obliged to him for his good opinion of me. I ſhall anſwer him fully in my next touching the burning of heather.

This letter, Sir, is chiefly to inform you and your numerous readers, that we have this year fitted out from Scotland as great a number of veſſels in the herring fiſhery (I mean as to tonnage) as have been fitted out from the ſeven provinces of Holland this laſt ſeaſon. This circumſtance greatly pleaſes me, as I always held it out that the fiſheries and woolen manufacture were the great objects that our people of Scotland ought to attend to, next to agriculture. I have now the pleaſure to inform the public, through the channel of your uſeful Magazine, that the herring fiſhing is ſet in on the north-weſt coaſt of Scotland; and that, in Loch-Need alone, on the weſt coaſt of Sutherland-ſhire, there is not leſs than 100 ſail of veſſels, all of which, I am informed, have been ſucceſsful, and I hope will ſoon complete their loadings.

I muſt here, Sir, take the liberty to mention the young man who applied to me, by a correſpondence through your Magazine, on the 2d of May laſt, for my advice in fitting out a veſſel for the herring fiſhery. He alone, with a citizen of Edinburgh, has had ſpirit enough to fit out two this year, one of which is expected at Leith in a few days with a large cargo of new herrings, caught by our own countrymen on our own coaſts. —Would it not give great ſpirit to this beneficial and uſeful branch of trade, that the noblemen, gentlemen, merchants and others, would give ſuch encouragement as the wiſe Hollanders do to promote this valuable trade? The Hollanders, upon the arrival of the firſt veſſel from the herring fiſhery, give a high price for the herrings, not ſo much to indulge their taſte as to encourage the trade. I have myſelf ſeen paid in Holland 20 l. ſterling for one barrel of herrings firſt arrived, and the retailers make very handſomely by it. There is nothing more common than for theſe people giving from 1 to 3 s. for a ſingle herring on their firſt arrival.

Now, Sir, would the noblemen, gentlemen and others, who are poſſeſſed of property equal to 365 l. a-year, or any income in proportion to that ſum, give one day's income for a firkin of herrings on their firſt arrival, it would much encourage this great national object. How ſoon are 20 s. ſwallowed down in claret, or indeed in any liquor whatever. Had not the gentlemen of this country better give 20 s. for this firkin, although they ſhould eat but one ſingle herring themſelves, and give the reſt to their ſervants? Surely it would be much more to their honour and reputation than beſtowing the like ſum on any article of luxury. Yours, &c. D. LOCH.

Edinburgh, Nov. 26.

MARRIAGE.

Nov. 22. At Edinburgh, Alexander Tytler, Eſq; advocate, to Miſs Fraſer, eldeſt daughter of the late William Fraſer, Eſq; of Balnain.

DEATHS.

Oct 23. At Nottingham, in the 50th year of his age, Robert Sutton of Cleadon, Eſq; a captain of the 14th regiment of foot, and a near relation to lord Stormont. He has left a widow, one of the daughters of Sir Alexander Forbes of Foveran, Bart. Aberdeenſhire.

Nov. 24. At Aberdeen, Mrs Burnet of Kirkhill.

25. At Edinburgh, Miſs Eliſabeth Rocheid, daughter of the deceaſed Alexander Rocheid of Inveleith Eſq;

25 At ditto, Miſs Baby Scott, daughter of the deceaſed Dr Alexander Scott of Thirleſtain.

To our CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr C.'s obſervations ſhall appear in our next.

JUVENIS juſt received, and ſhall undergo examination.

Mr SCRUPULOUS' aſſertions are far from being ſatisfactory.

J. W.'s verſes very tolerable.

R. L. ought to have chriſtened his lines.—What title muſt we give them?

The Epitaph in our next.